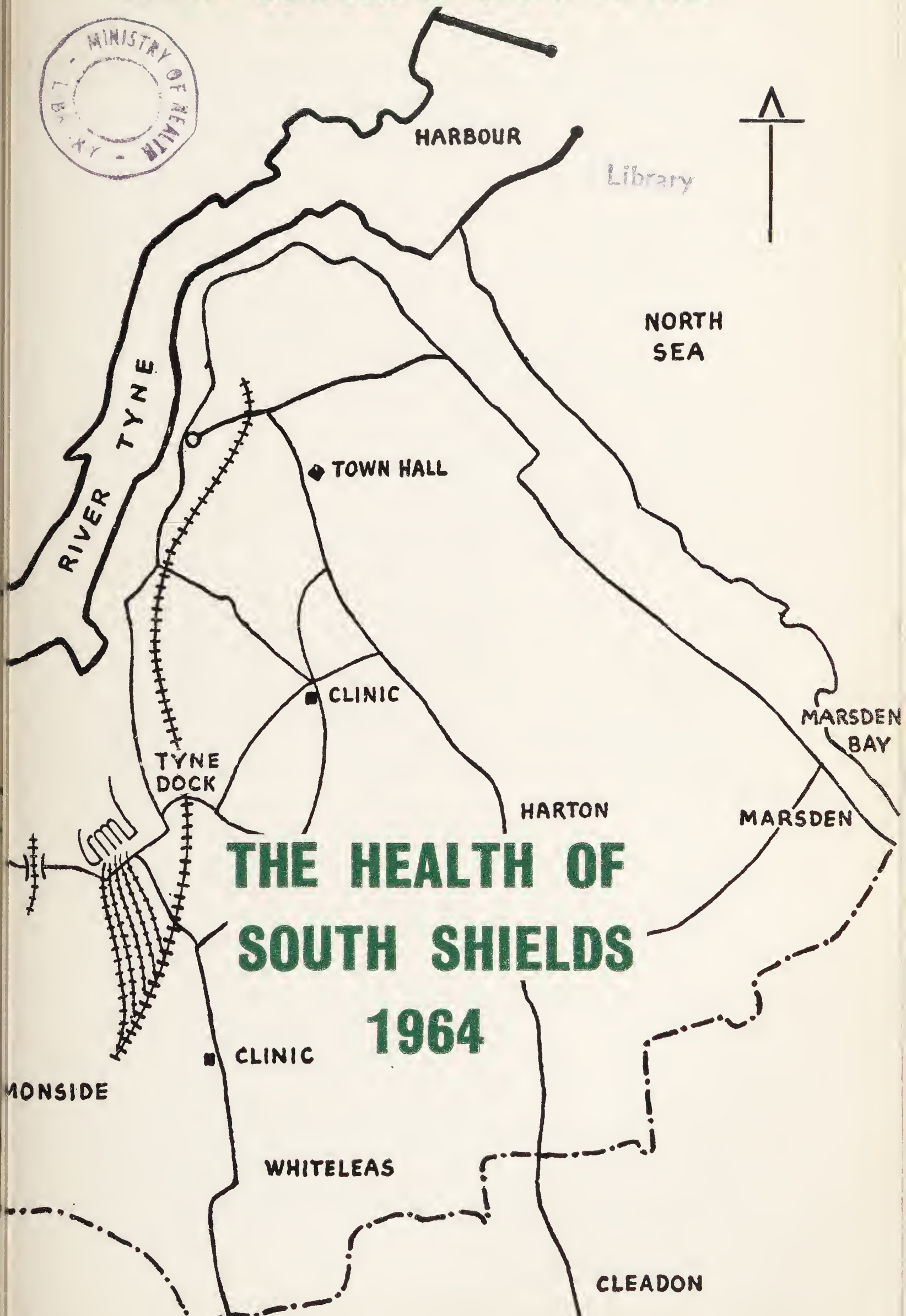


44 14

# COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS



*For Circulation to:*

[illegible]

**COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

**for the year 1964**

---

**I. D. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                     | PAGE |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| COMMITTEES .....                    | 5    |
| STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT..... | 8    |
| INTRODUCTION .....                  | 12   |

## PART I.—GENERAL DATA AND VITAL STATISTICS.

|                                               |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|
| Area and Population .....                     | 18 |
| Vital Statistics .....                        | 18 |
| Natural, Social and Economic Conditions ..... | 19 |
| Births .....                                  | 20 |
| Deaths .....                                  | 20 |
| Mothers and Infants .....                     | 22 |

## PART II.—SERVICES UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

|                                                                  |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Care of Mothers and Young Children (Section 22)                  | 35 |
| Midwifery Service (Section 23) .....                             | 42 |
| Health Visiting Service (Section 24) .....                       | 49 |
| Home Nursing Service (Section 25) .....                          | 52 |
| Vaccination and Immunisation (Section 26) .....                  | 54 |
| Ambulance Service (Section 27) .....                             | 58 |
| Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care<br>(Section 28) ..... | 61 |
| Home Help Service (Section 29) .....                             | 67 |
| Mental Health Services (Section 51) .....                        | 69 |

## PART III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

|                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| Notifications and Deaths .....            | 80 |
| Epidemiology                              |    |
| Notes of Certain Infectious Diseases..... | 84 |
| Hospital Admission .....                  | 87 |
| Laboratory Examinations .....             | 88 |
| Tuberculosis .....                        | 88 |
| Venereal Disease .....                    | 93 |

## PART IV—ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE.

|                                             |     |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector |     |
| Water Supply, etc. ....                     | 122 |
| Housing .....                               | 102 |
| Food and Drugs Control.....                 | 107 |
| Atmospheric Pollution .....                 | 114 |
| Factories .....                             | 118 |
| Rodent and Pest Control .....               | 119 |

## PART V—MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

|                                                   |     |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Welfare of Blind Persons .....                    | 124 |
| National Assistance Act, 1948, (Section 47) ..... | 125 |
| Medical Examinations .....                        | 125 |



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30115693>

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

As at December, 1964

THE MAYOR

ALDERMAN J. E. WRIGHT *ex-officio*

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN W. P. McANANY, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman :*

ALDERMAN MRS. R. A. HART

|                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Alderman P. Brady                | Councillor J. A. Dixon        |
| Alderman J. A. Clark, J.P.       | Councillor Mrs. R. F. Farrell |
| Alderman Mrs. L. Glover, J.P.    | Councillor A. J. Florence     |
| Alderman Mrs. M. E. Sutton, J.P. | Councillor Mrs. J. L. Fry     |
| Councillor R. Bainbridge,        | Councillor J. Maddison        |
| M.B.E., J.P.                     | Councillor H. Marshall        |
| Councillor W. B. Catley          | Councillor Mrs. E. Roberts    |
| Councillor Mrs. E. Cook          | Councillor T. J. Robinson     |
| Councillor M. Diamond            | Councillor N. S. Smith        |
| Councillor H. R. Donkin          | Councillor A. Stobbs          |

## HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN W. P. McANANY, J.P.

Composed of all the members of the Public Health Committee  
with the addition of the following co-opted members :

Dr. N. Cowley

*Representative of South Shields Local Medical Committee.*

Dr. F. H. Robson

*Representative of South Shields Branch  
of British Medical Association*

Mr. J. G. Gedling

Mr. S. Hannay

*Representative of South Shields Local Executive Council.*

Miss M. Stoddart

*Matron of the South Shields and District Nursing Association.*

One Vacancy

*Representative of Local Hospital Management Committee.*

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN MRS. M. E. SUTTON, J.P.

Composed of all the members of the Health Services Committee  
with the addition of the following co-opted members :

Mr. N. Whale

Mrs. L. M. Bradley

# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

## SUB-COMMITTEE

*Chairman :*

ALDERMAN W. P. McANANY, J.P.

THE MAYOR

ALDERMAN J. E. WRIGHT *ex-officio*.

|                   |
|-------------------|
| Alderman P. Brady |
|-------------------|

Alderman J. A. Clark, J.P.

Alderman Mrs. L. Glover, J.P.

Alderman Mrs. R. A. Hart (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman Mrs. M. E. Sutton, J.P.

Councillor R. Bainbridge, M.B.E., J.P.

Councillor Mrs. E. Cook

Councillor M. Diamond

Councillor Mrs. R. F. Farrell

Councillor Mrs. J. L. Fry

Councillor H. Marshall

Councillor Mrs. E. Roberts

Councillor N. S. Smith

With the addition of the following co-opted members:

Mrs. E. Diamond

Mrs. J. Richardson

# STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(As at December, 1964)

## *Medical and Dental Staff:*

The Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

I. D. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer:

A. R. BUCHAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

(*resigned* 31.12.64)

Senior School Medical Officer:

H. LEVY, M.B., B.S.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health  
(*and School Medical Officers*):

JEAN WALMSLEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

LORNA M. ROZNER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

ANN CARTER, M.B., Ch.B.

MARGARET T. SHERRATT, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Chief Dental Officer and Principal School Dental Officer:

A. B. GIBSON, B.D.S.

(*resigned* 31.12.64)

Dental Officers  
(*and School Dental Officers*)

B. SCRAFTON, B.D.S.

E. LOWERY, B.D.S.

(*sessional*)

J. P. BLUNT, L.D.S.

(*sessional*)

J. WALSH, B.D.S.

(*sessional*)

Dental Anaesthetist:

E. O'NEIL, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., L.M.

(*sessional*)

## Consultant Psychiatrist:

*(Child Guidance—in conjunction with Sunderland County Borough)*

R. N. STANSFIELD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

## Consultant Chest Physician\*:

P. M. ROOZE, M.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

## Consultant Adviser in Venereal Diseases\*:

C. B. S. SCHOFIELD, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Edin.)

*(Left 31.7.64)*

D. H. ROBERTSON, M.B., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.T.M. &amp; H.

*(Commenced 1.11.64)*

## Consultant Adviser in Paediatrics\*:

R. D. G. GREERY, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.C.H.

## Consultant Adviser in Mental Subnormality\*:

G. MCCOULL, O.B.E., V.R.D., M.D.

## Consultant Adviser in Mental Illness\*:

M. D. CASHMAN, M.B., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.P.M.

*Nursing and Allied Staff:*

## Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse:

MISS E. MYCOCK, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N., H.V. (Cert.)

## Senior Health Visitor:

MRS. M. STEWART, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. (Cert.)

15 Health Visitors

7 School Nurses

1 Assistant Nurse

2 Clinic Assistants

## Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives:

MRS. S. A. INNES, S.R.N., S.C.M.

## Matron Midwifery Part II Training School:

MISS E. ROBINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

25 Domiciliary Midwives

*\*In conjunction with Newcastle Regional Hospital Board.*

## Matron Day Nurseries:

MRS. L. FRIZE, S.R.N., S.C.M.

1 Assistant Matron

1 Warden

5 Nursery Nurses

11 Student Nursery Nurses

## Matron, South Shields and District Nursing Association:

MISS M. STODDART, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N.

15 District Nurses and 2 Male Nurses

## Social Case Worker

*(part-time in conjunction with Northumberland and Tyneside  
Council of Social Service):*

MRS. E. WINCH

## Home Help Organiser:

MRS. A. C. THOMPSON

*Other Staff:*

## Speech Therapist:

MRS. M. AINLEY, L.C.S.T.

## Physiotherapist:

MISS R. HENDERSON

*(sessional)*

## Educational Psychologist:

*(in conjunction with Education Committee)*

I. R. MCKENZIE, B.Sc. (Psych.)

*Mental Health Service:*

## Senior Mental Welfare Officer:

W. SCOTT, A.I.S.W.

3 Mental Welfare Officers

## Supervisor of Junior and Adult (Female) Training Centre:

MRS. I. HOULT

5 Assistant Supervisors

1 Trainee

Supervisor of Adult (Male) Training Centre:

E. POLLARD

2 Assistant Supervisors

1 Trainee

*Ambulance Service:*

Ambulance Superintendent:

W. S. BOHILL, F.I.A.O.

*Public Health Inspectorate:*

Chief Public Health Inspector:

R. V. ROBINSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I.

4 Senior Public Health Inspectors

5 Inspectors

3 Pupil Inspectors

2 Rodent Operators

Borough Analyst:

W. GORDON-CAREY, F.R.I.C.

(*part-time*)

*General Administration and Clerical Staff:*

Chief Clerk:

J. HILTON, M.R.S.H.

(*retired 20.10.64*)

J. A. BREWIS, D.M.A.

(*commenced 7.9.64*)

1 Senior Administrative Clerk

1 Finance Officer

18 Clerks

3 Typists

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Health Services Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for 1964.

Reference to the general indices or statistics for the year shows in the case of the live birth rate, the figure of 18.2 births per thousand population, thus continuing the very slight diminishing trend over the past six years and being in contrast to the increase over the country generally. The estimated population of the town has also fallen a little, from 109,533 in 1961 to 108,770 in 1964.

Not unexpectedly, the infant mortality for 1964 showed an increase from the record low rate of 16.4 in 1963 to 22.2 in 1964. The figure for the country generally was 19.9.

Although over two-thirds of the infant deaths occurred in the first week of life, both these and still births also showed increases over the previous year so that the perinatal mortality rate for the Borough was 36.5, as compared with 30.3 in 1963 ; again a disappointing result but, nevertheless, a continuing challenge to all the services involved.

The general (crude) death rate of 11.03, compared with 12.62 in 1963.

There was little change in the percentage distribution in the major causes of death, although deaths by accident and violence increased in proportion from 4.1 % in 1963 to 6.4 % in 1964, the actual numbers of such deaths being 77 in 1964 and 56 in the previous year. This category also includes deaths by suicide, the number of which was 18 compared with 11 in the previous year (a reference is made to the increasing number of attempted suicides on page 74 of the Mental Health Services report). In young adults, aged 15 to 24, half of all deaths were due to accident or violence and the need for continued research and education in the prevention of all kinds of accidents is evident.

Deaths from coronary disease totalled 222 in 1964 and the number of deaths attributed to this cause has increased four-fold in the past twenty years. It is now well-known as the highest single cause of death in males under the age of 55 and ended the lives of 15 males of this age group in South Shields in 1964. Unfortunately, along with cancer of the lung, which was responsible for 12 deaths in males under 55

both diseases continue to take their yearly toll at a time when medical research is being more and more actively applied to elucidate the causative factors.

The general incidence of notifiable infectious disease during the year was numerically undramatic and apart from a number of alarms and excursions, particularly during the period of the extensive typhoid outbreak in Aberdeen, there has been little to report. It was, for example, a comparatively quiet year for measles but the problem of vaccination against this disease has been widely discussed, following the publication of the results of a national survey concerning the complications of measles, in which this Department participated (~~reference 00~~). So far, the argument in favour of the introduction of a public scheme of measles vaccination has not been officially accepted. Tuberculosis in the area, although higher than the national average, continues its downward trend and the 85 notifications received during the year is the lowest since 1961, when 87 cases were reported. The minor gastro-intestinal infections, dysentery and salmonellosis were moderately prevalent but there were no large outbreaks of food poisoning. An unusual event was the report of a case of leprosy in a person who had been infected abroad in past years. There was some reduction in the number of venereal diseases dealt with at the Special Clinic but the indications are that venereal infection generally remains fairly prevalent and a sustained effort is necessary in two main directions—firstly, education coupled with suitable publicity and secondly, such control of sources of infection as is possible.

During the year, the Local Health Authority Services were developed or modified in accordance with need. In the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, there was a further slight reduction in the number of home confinements, possibly reflecting an increasing number of women confined in the Danesfield Maternity Home, admission to which is accepted on grounds of social need. A fair proportion are discharged home with their babies after a few days and their premature return to what are allegedly bad social conditions can only be viewed with some concern. Attendances at the ante-natal clinics have been maintained at a steady level and although co-operation between individual members of the public health staff, general practitioners and hospital personnel is excellent, there is a clear indication for development of specific schemes of closer working. It is hoped to consider certain possibilities in the near future.

In the Mental Health Services, it was a further year of consolidation of progress. To cope with the increasing number of patients referred, one additional Mental Welfare Officer was appointed. Owing to an unfortunate delay in acquiring premises, the scheme for the provision of the Authority's first mental health hostel was further deferred. At the training centre, there were obvious signs of inadequacy of accommodation, both in the junior centre and in the dining accommodation for the senior male group. This, unfortunately, led to the formation of a waiting list for the junior centre and a scheme for expansion of this accommodation is being actively pursued.

Developments in 1964 for the care of the elderly included the setting up of an after-care clinic at the Authority's Boldon Lane Clinic and a more detailed description of this arrangement is given on page 64. The Clinic, which at present is held once per week, is intended for elderly patients discharged from hospital. It is a joint venture in which staffs of the hospital, health and welfare department participate along with voluntary workers. Rehabilitation of the patients, both from a medical and social stand point, is attempted and after one year's working, with little in the way of additional specific costs involved, it may be said that this experiment has had some success and could usefully be extended.

During the year, it was decided by the Council to supplement the existing voluntary scheme for chiropody services by introducing a directly provided service. Four additional chiropody sessions in the two main clinics were started at the end of the year.

The home help service has maintained its important role in the care of the elderly in South Shields. Whilst it unavoidably continues to be one of the Authority's most expensive services, it can be argued that in return for this expenditure, the burden borne by the service is helping to shield hospital and welfare homes, which are more expensive services, from a probable excessive demand which would exist if the home help service were not developed to the extent that it is. In other words, the service in South Shields is positively helping elderly people, many in their eighties and some in their nineties, to maintain themselves at a satisfactory level of health and wellbeing in their own homes. Some elderly folk in the town have, in fact, been assisted by the service continuously for ten years or more.

There were two developments of note in 1964 in the field of environmental hygiene. The first of these was a decision in principle

by the Tyneside Authorities to adopt certain proposals for a modern sewage disposal purification scheme which would gradually eliminate the severe pollution existing in the river water and—of special significance to South Shields—would be expected to diminish the moderate pollution of the beaches.

The second was the implementation during 1964 of most of the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. This is fundamental public health legislation, the beneficial effects of which will only be felt after a considerable period during which the legal standards can be ultimately attained. The provisions which deal with office accommodation affect the Authority both as an enforcing Authority and, of course, as an employer. With regard to the former, the considerable additional work involved calls for a larger establishment of public health inspectors which, under present circumstances, is not attainable and in the meantime, the existing staff have to do their best to cover the extra work as best they can. The situation is not ideal.

As an employer of office staff, the Authority is now compelled to set an example by adopting standards which, if anything, should exceed those of the Act and like other large employers, they have many problems in this connection. In the Health Department itself, the situation is extremely difficult and is reaching such a point where the planned expansion of services is hindered by inadequate administrative premises, which must now adhere to prescribed standards. Some easement of this situation can be affected in one way by replacing large and obsolete office furniture with modern units to economise on existing space.

Full details of the Act and its implementation locally are given on page 101.

The usual turnover of staff has taken place. Amongst the changes, I would refer in particular to Mr. John Hilton, Chief Clerk, who after a remarkable record of devoted service of 51 years in this Department, retired in October. Similarly, Mrs. E. Gollop, retired in May, after 27 years service as a Domiciliary Midwife. To both these members, the cordial good wishes of the Committee and the staff of the Department were recorded. Similar sentiments were extended to Dr. A. R. Buchan, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, who resigned at the end of the year to take up the corresponding

appointment to the Somerset County Council and to Mr. A. Gibson, Principal School Dental Officer, who transferred at the same time to the Cumberland County Council.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the members of the Committee for their most valuable assistance and support throughout the year. The work of the Department would be quite ineffective without the close co-operation of many officials in this and neighbouring authorities, the hospital authorities and the Executive Council. To them and to the doctors and other professional staffs of the hospitals and general practitioners, I am much indebted. Above all, I am particularly grateful for the excellent and devoted work carried out by my own staff. Finally, I wish to thank Dr. D. F. Henley, Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Mr. J. A. Brewis, Chief Administrative Assistant, who compiled and collated much of the material of this report.

I. D. LEITCH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*Public Health Department,  
Stanhope Parade,  
South Shields,  
Co. Durham.*

*Telephone: South Shields 4241*

# COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS

---

## Part I

### General Data and Vital Statistics

---

**Area and Population.**

**Vital Statistics.**

**Natural, Social and Economic Conditions.**

**Births.**

**Deaths.**

**Mothers and Infants.**

## Area and Population.

|                                                                           |     |     |     |     |     |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| Area of Borough                                                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,877 acres |
| Including inland water but excluding foreshore and tidal water—301 acres. |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| Population                                                                |     |     |     |     |     |             |
| Census 1961                                                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 109,533     |
| Estimated Mid-1964                                                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 108,770     |
| Density (persons per acre)                                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22·3        |
| Inhabited Houses (at 31st December, 1964)                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36,385      |
| Rateable Value                                                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £3,052,260  |
| Product of 1d. Rate (estimated)                                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £12,341     |

## Vital Statistics.

|                                                                                                                 |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Live Births (corrected)                                                                                         |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| Number                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,983 |
| Rate per 1,000 population                                                                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18·2  |
| Illegitimate live births (per cent. of total live births)                                                       |     |     |     |     |     | 5·7%  |
| Stillbirths:                                                                                                    |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| Number                                                                                                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45    |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births                                                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22·1  |
| Total live and stillbirths                                                                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,028 |
| Infant deaths (deaths under one year)                                                                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44    |
| Infant Mortality Rates:                                                                                         |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births                                                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22·2  |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births                                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21·9  |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births                                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26·5  |
| Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15·6  |
| Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14·6  |
| Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36·5  |
| Maternal mortality (including abortion)                                                                         |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| Number of deaths                                                                                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil   |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births                                                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil   |

## Natural, Social and Economic Conditions.

### Meteorology :

The weather was comparatively mild throughout the year and the total rainfall was considerably below average, especially in the first and last quarters. Full details are summarised on page 33.

### Water Supply :

Details of the town's water supply are included in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report (see page 96).

### Industries and Unemployment :

The principal industries in the borough are shipbuilding, ship-repairing, coal mining and export. Light industries (electrical and engineering fittings, tailoring, gowns, lingerie, biscuits and cigarette filter tips) have now been established for some years and these, in contrast to the heavy industries, provide employment for many women.

There was a considerable improvement in the unemployment figures compared with 1963 and the indications are that this trend should continue during 1965.

I am indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange for the latest information available relating to unemployment which is summarised below.

The average numbers on the live registers taken from the monthly returns, were as follows :—

|                       | 1960              | 1961              | 1962              | 1963              | 1964              |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Men (age 18-64) ...   | 1,896             | 1,425             | 1,865             | 2,267             | 1,661             |
| Boys (age 15-17) ...  | 84                | 73                | 123               | 148               | 92                |
| Women (age 18-24)     | 425               | 354               | 404               | 444               | 366               |
| Girls (age 15-17) ... | 29                | 29                | 60                | 104               | 46                |
|                       | <hr/> 2,434 <hr/> | <hr/> 1,881 <hr/> | <hr/> 2,452 <hr/> | <hr/> 2,963 <hr/> | <hr/> 2,165 <hr/> |

Of the different groups, the percentage of unemployment was as follows :—

|                   | 1960            | 1961            | 1962            | 1963            | 1964            |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Men .....         | 7.6             | 4.9             | 8.5             | 10.0            | 5.3             |
| Boys .....        | 8.3             | 7.0             | 9.1             | 10.2            | 5.0             |
| Women .....       | 4.0             | 3.4             | 3.6             | 3.9             | 7.9             |
| Girls .....       | 1.6             | 1.6             | 4.4             | 5.4             | 2.3             |
| Total Average ... | <hr/> 6.7 <hr/> | <hr/> 5.5 <hr/> | <hr/> 7.1 <hr/> | <hr/> 8.8 <hr/> | <hr/> 5.4 <hr/> |

## **Births.**

There were 1,983 live births recorded during the year, comprising 1,010 males and 973 females, equivalent to a crude rate of 18·2 per 1,000 population. This shows no significant change from 1963, contrary to the general upward trend in the birth rate throughout the country.

### **Stillbirths :**

The number of stillbirths recorded was 45 (28 male and 17 female) representing a rate of 22·1, an increase on the 1963 rate of 20·5.

### **Illegitimate Births :**

There were 113 (53 male, 60 female) illegitimate live births, a rate of 5·7% of the total live births. This is below last year's figure of 6·5%.

## **Area Comparability Factor.**

The Comparability Factor for South Shields was 0·98 and this when multiplied with the crude birth rate of 18·2 gave an adjusted birth rate of 17·8 per 1,000 population.

Table 1 on page 25 compares the birth rate for South Shields with the national rate and those of neighbouring authorities.

### **Excess of Births over Deaths :**

The natural increase of population was 783 compared with 630 in 1963 and an average of 754 for the past decade.

## **Deaths.**

There were 1,200 deaths (655 male, 545 female) registered during the year among South Shields residents. This represents a crude death rate of 11·03 per 1,000 population compared with a rate of 12·62 for 1963.

The Comparability Factor for South Shields is 1·18 and this gives an adjusted rate of 13·02 per 1,000 population.

Table 1 on page 25 compares the 1964 death rates for South Shields with the national rates and those of neighbouring authorities.

### Causes of Death :

The principal causes of death are given in the following table :—

| Cause.                                                | Number of Deaths<br>1964 | %<br>1964 | %<br>1963 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Diseases of the heart and<br>circulatory system ..... | 592                      | 49.3      | 47.4      |
| Cancer .....                                          | 245                      | 20.4      | 19.2      |
| Respiratory diseases .....                            | 133                      | 11.1      | 12.3      |
| Accidents, suicides and<br>violence.....              | 77                       | 6.4       | 4.1       |

The detailed breakdown of deaths by age, sex and cause is given in Table 2 on page 26.

### Deaths from Cancer :

There were 245 deaths (146 male, 99 female) from all forms of cancer during 1964, compared with 264 in 1963. This accounted for 20.4% of the total deaths in the Borough. The cancer death rate was 2.25 per thousand population as against 2.18 for England and Wales. Continuing the pattern of previous years, the highest contribution was cancer of the lung and bronchus, followed by cancer of the stomach and cancer of the breast.

Cancer of the lung accounted for 73 deaths in the Borough in 1964. Fifteen of these were in persons below the age of 55, this being second only to coronary disease as a principal cause of death in this age group. The association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer is widely accepted and the efforts of the Department are directed towards reminding certain groups, especially children at school, of its importance.

### Deaths from Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System :

This group is by far the most common cause of death in our community, accounting for almost half of the total deaths in the Borough. Over one-third (37.5%) of this group was due to coronary disease and angina.

In the past 20 years, the number of deaths from this cause has shown a considerable increase from 48 in 1943 to 222 in 1964. It is the highest cause of death in males under the age of 45 and is therefore of particular significance.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system accounted for 172 deaths, (78 male, 94 female), *i.e.* 14.3% of the total deaths.

### **Accidents, Suicides and Violence :**

The total of deaths ascribed to this group was 77, compared with 56 in 1963. Deaths associated with motor vehicles totalled 22 and all other accidental deaths amounted to 36. The number of deaths by suicide was 18, compared with 11 in 1963. In young adults, aged 15 to 24 years, half of all deaths were due to accidents and violence.

### **Infant Mortality.**

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 44, (23 male, 21 female), representing an infant mortality rate of 22.2 per 1,000 live births, compared with a rate of 19.9 for England and Wales. This is an increase on the record low rate of 16.4 in 1963 but compares favourably with figures for neighbouring authorities (see Table 1).

### **Illegitimate Infant Mortality :**

Of the 113 illegitimate live births, three died before completing their first year of life.

### **Causes of Infant Mortality :**

The principal causes of death of infants under one year are set out in Table 3 on page 29. The largest factor was immaturity which accounted for 38.6% of first year deaths. Immaturity represents a continuing problem and although considerable progress is being made in the care of the immature infant, much remains to be done towards reducing the number of premature births.

### **Neo-Natal Mortality :**

The number of deaths among live born infants under four weeks of age was 31. This represents a neo-natal mortality rate of 15.6 compared with 10.5 in 1963. Of these, 29 deaths were in the first week of life. It will be seen, therefore, that of the total deaths under one year of age, two-thirds (66%) occurred in the early neo-natal period.

### **Peri-Natal Mortality :**

The mortality of infants after the first week has shown a marked improvement over the past decade but there is still very little change in the loss of infant life before, during and soon after birth, the perinatal mortality rate for 1964 (36.5) being virtually unchanged over this period. Details are given in the following table.

| Year | Number of Stillbirths | Deaths of infants during first week of life | Perinatal mortality rates | Deaths of infants-between one week and twelve months |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1955 | 60                    | 42                                          | 50·5                      | 24                                                   |
| 1956 | 50                    | 24                                          | 37·3                      | 18                                                   |
| 1957 | 59                    | 28                                          | 40·0                      | 21                                                   |
| 1958 | 38                    | 33                                          | 33·8                      | 16                                                   |
| 1959 | 55                    | 28                                          | 37·4                      | 24                                                   |
| 1960 | 57                    | 29                                          | 38·9                      | 12                                                   |
| 1961 | 49                    | 32                                          | 38·8                      | 20                                                   |
| 1962 | 46                    | 29                                          | 36·4                      | 16                                                   |
| 1963 | 42                    | 20                                          | 30·3                      | 13                                                   |
| 1964 | 45                    | 29                                          | 36·5                      | 15                                                   |

### Maternal Mortality.

In 1964, there was one death from causes associated with child-birth. This occurred in a woman who died in the fifth month of her pregnancy from acute myocardial failure, due to chronic myocarditis with diffuse myocardial fibrosis.

### Coroner's Inquests.

I am indebted to the Coroner, Mr. A. Henderson, for the following information:—

Some 245 deaths were notified to the Coroner's Office during 1964. Inquests were held on 66 of these, 72 were certified on Coroner's form A on doctor's opinion and 107 post mortem examinations were carried out.

The inquests were held for the reasons set out below:—

|                                                                                |     |     |     |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Accidental deaths, consisting of accidents at home,<br>at work or on the roads | ... | ... | ... | 32 |
| Suicide                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Misadventure                                                                   | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| Miscellaneous                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 12 |

## **Cremations.**

During 1964, 695 cremations were carried out at the Corporation's Crematorium as follows:—

- 488 South Shields residents.
- 97 Jarrow residents.
- 57 Hebburn residents.
- 27 Boldon residents.
- 26 residents of other areas.

In addition, 23 South Shields residents were cremated at Sunderland Crematorium and 4 at Newcastle Crematorium. The total, therefore, of South Shields residents cremated after death in 1964 was 515, which is equivalent to 42·9% of the total deaths. The corresponding proportion for 1963 was 43%.

## **Deaths in Hospital and other Institutions.**

There were 648 deaths (54%) of South Shields residents in hospitals or other institutions. Further details are given in Table 4, on page 30.

TABLE 1.  
COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS.

| Authority               | Population | Birth Rate |          | Death Rate |          | Stillbirth Rate | Infant Mortality | Neonatal Mortality |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
|                         |            | Crude      | Adjusted | Crude      | Adjusted |                 |                  |                    |
| England and Wales.....  | 47,401,000 | 18.5       |          | 11.3       |          | 16.3            | 19.92            | 13.8               |
| South Shields C.B. .... | 108,770    | 18.2       | 17.8     | 11.0       | 13.02    | 22.1            | 22.2             | 15.6               |
| Gateshead C.B. ....     | 101,760    | 19.3       | 18.7     | 11.0       | 13.1     | 22.8            | 21.3             | 13.7               |
| Newcastle C.B. ....     | 260,750    | 17.32      | 17.32    | 12.18      | 13.52    | 18.05           | 25.02            | 16.16              |
| Tynemouth C.B. ....     | 71,890     | 20.08      | 19.68    | 10.54      | 12.23    | 20.00           | 28.32            | 16.96              |
| Sunderland C.B. ....    | 189,630    | 19.34      | 18.18    | 10.95      | 13.69    | 21.87           | 24.54            | 16.09              |
| Durham County .....     | 970,190    | 18.3       | 17.9     | 10.9       | 13.3     | 20.0            | 22.9             | 15.7               |
| Northumberland County . | 494,440    | 16.80      | 16.96    | 11.76      | 12.58    | 15.99           | 20.11            | 14.93              |

CAUSES OF DEATH by age and Sex for 1964 (as supplied by the Registrar-General)

TABLE 2.

| Cause of Death                                       | Sex | Total<br>All<br>ages | Under<br>4<br>weeks | 4<br>weeks<br>and<br>under<br>1 Year | Age in Years. |    |     |     |     |     |     | 65— | 75 and<br>over |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
|                                                      |     |                      |                     |                                      | 1—            | 5— | 15— | 25— | 35— | 45— | 55— |     |                |
| 1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory .....                   | M.  | 7                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | 2   | —   | 3   | 1—             |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other .....                         | F.  | 1                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | 1   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
|                                                      | M.  | —                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
| 3. Syphilitic Disease .....                          | F.  | 1                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1   | —              |
|                                                      | M.  | 2                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 1   | —   | —   | 1              |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.           | F.  | —                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
|                                                      | M.  | —                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....                | F.  | 1                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | 1   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
|                                                      | M.  | 25                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 2   | 5   | 12  | 6              |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus               | F.  | 21                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 1   | 4   | 5   | 11             |
|                                                      | M.  | 62                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 2   | 10  | 24  | 18  | 8              |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .....                 | F.  | 11                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 2   | 1   | 2   | 5   | 1              |
|                                                      | M.  | —                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....                 | F.  | 18                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | 3   | 8   | 4   | 2              |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic<br>Neoplasms ..... | F.  | 8                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 2   | 3   | 3              |
|                                                      | M.  | 55                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | 1  | 1   | 1   | 1   | 6   | 17  | 15  | 13             |
| 15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....                      | F.  | 39                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | 1   | —   | 3   | 6   | 8   | 11  | 10             |
|                                                      | M.  | 4                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 1   | —   | 3   | —              |
| 16. Diabetes .....                                   | F.  | 2                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | 1   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1              |
|                                                      | M.  | 6                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | 1   | —   | 2   | 2              |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...           | F.  | 3                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1   | —              |
|                                                      | M.  | 78                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | 5   | 10  | 23  | 39             |
| 18. Coronary Disease, Angina .....                   | F.  | 94                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 2   | 1   | 9   | 30  | 52             |
|                                                      | M.  | 126                  | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | 1   | 3   | 11  | 33  | 44  | 34             |
|                                                      | F.  | 96                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | 6   | 13  | 30  | 46             |

TABLE 2—continued.

| Cause of Death.                             | Sex | Total<br>All<br>ages | Under<br>4<br>weeks | 4<br>weeks<br>and<br>under<br>1 Year | Age in Years. |    |     |     |     |     |     |    | 65— | 75 and<br>over |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----------------|
|                                             |     |                      |                     |                                      | 1—            | 5— | 15— | 25— | 35— | 45— | 55— |    |     |                |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease .....   | M.  | 9                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 2  | 4   | 3              |
| 20. Other heart disease .....               | F.  | 19                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 6  | 4   | 9              |
|                                             | M.  | 55                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 2   | 1   | 6  | 15  | 30             |
| 21. Other circulatory disease .....         | F.  | 58                   | —                   | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 3   | 2   | 7  | 12  | 33             |
|                                             | M.  | 19                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 4   | 3  | 3   | 9              |
| 22. Influenza .....                         | F.  | 38                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 3  | 8   | 27             |
|                                             | M.  | —                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | —              |
| 23. Pneumonia .....                         | F.  | 1                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | 1              |
|                                             | M.  | 27                   | —                   | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | 2   | 1   | 3  | 8   | 11             |
| 24. Bronchitis .....                        | F.  | 18                   | —                   | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1   | 2  | 5   | 9              |
|                                             | M.  | 61                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 4   | 11 | 25  | 20             |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system... | F.  | 15                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1   | 2  | 4   | 8              |
|                                             | M.  | 4                    | —                   | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | 1   | 2              |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....     | F.  | 7                    | —                   | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 2  | 2   | 1              |
|                                             | M.  | 11                   | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 3   | 2  | 2   | 4              |
| 27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea..... | F.  | —                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | —              |
|                                             | M.  | 4                    | 1                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1  | 2   | —              |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis .....           | F.  | 4                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | 1   | —   | —   | —  | 1   | 2              |
|                                             | M.  | 4                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | 1              |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate .....           | F.  | 3                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | 4              |
| 31. Congenital malformations .....          | F.  | 4                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | 4              |
|                                             | M.  | 5                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | —              |
|                                             | M.  | 6                    | —                   | —                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —  | —   | —              |
|                                             | F.  | 4                    | 3                   | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 3   | —  | 1   | —              |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases. | M.  | 37                   | 12                  | 1                                    | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 1   | 1   | —  | 7   | 8              |
|                                             | F.  | 54                   | 14                  | 1                                    | —             | 2  | 1   | —   | —   | 2   | 4   | 1  | 10  | 15             |

TABLE 2—continued.

| Cause of Death                           | Sex | Total<br>All<br>ages | Under<br>4<br>weeks | 4<br>weeks<br>and<br>under<br>1 Yr. | Age in Years. |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |                |
|------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
|                                          |     |                      |                     |                                     | 1—            | 5— | 15— | 25— | 35— | 45— | 55— | 65— | 75 and<br>over |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents .....        | M.  | 10                   | —                   | —                                   | —             | 1  | 4   | —   | —   | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1              |
|                                          | F.  | 12                   | —                   | —                                   | 3             | 1  | —   | 1   | 1   | 1   | —   | 1   | 4              |
| 34. All other accidents.....             | M.  | 26                   | —                   | 5                                   | 3             | 1  | —   | 5   | —   | —   | 5   | 3   | 3              |
|                                          | F.  | 10                   | —                   | 1                                   | —             | 1  | 1   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 7              |
| 35. Suicide .....                        | M.  | 12                   | —                   | —                                   | —             | —  | 1   | 2   | —   | 4   | 2   | 1   | 2              |
|                                          | F.  | 6                    | —                   | —                                   | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | 1   | 3   | 2   | —              |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war ..... | M.  | 1                    | —                   | —                                   | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 1   | —   | —              |
|                                          | F.  | —                    | —                   | —                                   | —             | —  | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —              |
| Total All Causes .....                   | M.  | 655                  | 16                  | 7                                   | 1             | 5  | 10  | 8   | 20  | 65  | 127 | 194 | 202            |
|                                          | F.  | 545                  | 15                  | 6                                   | 5             | 1  | 4   | 6   | 15  | 27  | 80  | 138 | 248            |

TABLE 3—DEATHS DURING 1964 OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR, CAUSES AND AGES.

| Causes of Death                |                                 | Under 1 Week | 1-2 Weeks | 2-3 Weeks | 3-4 Weeks | Total under 4 Weeks | 1-3 Months | 3-6 Months | 6-9 Months | 9-12 Months | Total Deaths under 1 year | Males | Females |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------|---------|
| All causes:    Certified ..... |                                 | 32           | —         | —         | 1         | 33                  | 4          | 4          | 2          | 1           | 44                        | 23    | 21      |
| Uncertified .....              |                                 | —            | —         | —         | —         | —                   | —          | —          | —          | —           | —                         | —     | —       |
| <i>Code.</i>                   |                                 |              |           |           |           |                     |            |            |            |             |                           |       |         |
| 475                            | Respiratory infection .....     | 1            | —         | —         | —         | 1                   | —          | 1          | 1          | —           | 3                         | 3     | —       |
| 491                            | Bronchopneumonia .....          | —            | —         | —         | —         | —                   | 1          | —          | —          | 1           | 2                         | 1     | 1       |
| 571                            | Gastro-enteritis .....          | —            | —         | —         | 1         | 1                   | —          | —          | —          | —           | 1                         | 1     | —       |
| 751/9                          | Congenital malformations .....  | 4            | —         | —         | —         | 4                   | —          | 1          | —          | —           | 5                         | 2     | 3       |
| 760/2                          | Birth injury, etc. ....         | 2            | —         | —         | —         | 2                   | —          | —          | —          | —           | 2                         | —     | 2       |
| 763/9                          | Infections of the newborn ..... | 8            | —         | —         | —         | 8                   | —          | —          | —          | —           | 8                         | 2     | 6       |
| 770/6                          | Immaturity .....                | 17           | —         | —         | —         | 17                  | —          | —          | —          | —           | 17                        | 9     | 8       |
| E921                           | Accidental asphyxia .....       | —            | —         | —         | —         | —                   | 3          | 2          | 1          | —           | 6                         | 5     | 1       |
| Total .....                    |                                 | 32           | —         | —         | 1         | 33                  | 4          | 4          | 2          | 1           | 44                        | 23    | 21      |

TABLE 4—Deaths during 1964 in Institutions and Transferable Deaths.

| INSTITUTIONS                              | Deaths in Institutions in the Borough |               | Deaths of South Shields Residents in Institutions outside of the Borough | Transferable Deaths |               |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
|                                           | Residents                             | Non-Residents |                                                                          | Residents           | Non-Residents |
| General Hospital.....                     | 343                                   | 146           | —                                                                        | —                   | 146           |
| Ingham Infirmary.....                     | 177                                   | 72            | —                                                                        | —                   | 72            |
| Deans Hospital.....                       | 25                                    | 9             | —                                                                        | —                   | 9             |
| Cleadon Park Sanatorium .....             | 4                                     | 2             | —                                                                        | —                   | 2             |
| Primrose Hill Hospital, Jarrow .....      | —                                     | —             | 10                                                                       | 10                  | —             |
| General Hospital, Newcastle.....          | —                                     | —             | 14                                                                       | 14                  | —             |
| Shotley Bridge Hospital .....             | —                                     | —             | 6                                                                        | 6                   | —             |
| Palmer Memorial Hospital, Jarrow .....    | —                                     | —             | 4                                                                        | 4                   | —             |
| R.V.I., Newcastle .....                   | —                                     | —             | 4                                                                        | 4                   | —             |
| Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead ..... | —                                     | —             | 2                                                                        | 2                   | —             |
| Other Hospitals .....                     | —                                     | —             | 33                                                                       | 33                  | —             |
| Private Addresses .....                   | —                                     | —             | 10                                                                       | 10                  | —             |
| Other Places.....                         | —                                     | —             | 16                                                                       | 16                  | —             |
| Total .....                               | 549                                   | 229           | 99                                                                       | 99                  | 229           |

TABLE 5—POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS

For South Shields during 1964 and Previous Years

| Year | Population<br>Estimated<br>Middle<br>of<br>Each Year | LIVE BIRTHS |      | DEATHS                 |                                       |             |       |
|------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
|      |                                                      |             |      | Under 1 Year<br>of Age |                                       | At All Ages |       |
|      |                                                      | Number      | Rate | Number                 | Rate<br>per<br>1,000<br>Net<br>Births | Number      | Rate  |
| 1955 | 107,800                                              | 1,955       | 18·1 | 66                     | 34                                    | 1,236       | 11·5  |
| 1956 | 108,100                                              | 1,935       | 17·9 | 40                     | 21                                    | 1,211       | 11·2  |
| 1957 | 108,300                                              | 2,114       | 19·5 | 49                     | 23                                    | 1,275       | 11·8  |
| 1958 | 108,600                                              | 2,078       | 19·1 | 49                     | 24                                    | 1,321       | 12·2  |
| 1959 | 108,700                                              | 2,177       | 20·0 | 52                     | 24                                    | 1,190       | 10·9  |
| 1960 | 108,600                                              | 2,004       | 18·5 | 41                     | 21                                    | 1,306       | 12·0  |
| 1961 | 109,350                                              | 2,013       | 18·4 | 52                     | 26                                    | 1,322       | 12·1  |
| 1962 | 109,300                                              | 2,023       | 18·4 | 45                     | 22                                    | 1,308       | 12·0  |
| 1963 | 109,080                                              | 2,007       | 18·4 | 33                     | 16·4                                  | 1,377       | 12·6  |
| 1964 | 108,770                                              | 1,983       | 18·2 | 44                     | 22·2                                  | 1,200       | 11·03 |

TABLE 6.  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS—VITAL STATISTICS, 1871 — 1964.

| Year                 | Estimated<br>Population | Birth Rate | General<br>Death Rate | Infant Mortality<br>Rate | Peri-Natal<br>Mortality Rate | DEATH RATES FROM |                  |            |                   |           |                             |                                    |                                  |        |                                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------------|
|                      |                         |            |                       |                          |                              | Measles          | Scarlet<br>Fever | Diphtheria | Whooping<br>Cough | Diarrhoea | Respiratory<br>Tuberculosis | Tuberculosis<br>of other<br>organs | Other<br>respiratory<br>diseases | Cancer | Diseases of<br>heart and<br>circulation |
| Mean 1871-1880 ..... | 50,580                  | 43.1       | 25.5                  | 164                      | *                            | .42              | 1.44             | .12        | .78               | 1.59      | 1.91                        | *                                  | 3.98                             | *      | 1.23                                    |
| Mean 1881-1890 ..... | 66,520                  | 38.8       | 20.5                  | 140                      | *                            | .34              | .45              | .10        | .44               | .78       | 1.84                        | *                                  | 3.55                             | *      | 1.64                                    |
| Mean 1891-1900 ..... | 87,022                  | 36.1       | 20.1                  | 166                      | *                            | .44              | .22              | .11        | .46               | .93       | 1.60                        | 1.00                               | 3.76                             | .63    | 1.72                                    |
| Mean 1901-1910 ..... | 104,186                 | 33.9       | 18.0                  | 140                      | 81.1                         | .45              | .17              | .16        | .47               | .66       | 1.50                        | .71                                | 2.94                             | .72    | 1.81                                    |
| Mean 1911-1920 ..... | 109,843                 | 28.9       | 18.1                  | 126                      | 72.9                         | .38              | .09              | .09        | .26               | .61       | 1.53                        | .59                                | 4.23                             | .90    | 1.75                                    |
| Mean 1921-1930 ..... | 122,170                 | 23.2       | 14.0                  | 99                       | 59.4                         | .19              | .03              | .08        | .19               | .29       | 1.33                        | .44                                | 2.84                             | 1.09   | 1.87                                    |
| Mean 1931-1940 ..... | 110,635                 | 17.7       | 13.7                  | 81                       | 65.7                         | .12              | .03              | .17        | .08               | .14       | 1.12                        | .34                                | 1.95                             | 1.44   | 3.17                                    |
| Mean 1941-1950 ..... | 97,994                  | 20.1       | 14.3                  | 60                       | 44.3                         | .03              | .00              | .09        | .03               | .12       | 0.92                        | .17                                | 1.78                             | 1.92   | 3.81                                    |
| Mean 1951-1960 ..... | 107,867                 | 18.8       | 11.7                  | 28                       | 39.4                         | .01              | —                | —          | .00               | .02       | 0.24                        | .12                                | 1.43                             | 2.24   | 3.27                                    |
| 1961.....            | 109,350                 | 18.4       | 12.1                  | 25.8                     | 38.8                         | .01              | —                | —          | —                 | .01       | 0.09                        | .01                                | 1.40                             | 2.44   | 3.76                                    |
| 1962.....            | 109,300                 | 18.4       | 12.0                  | 22.4                     | 36.4                         | —                | —                | —          | —                 | .01       | 0.15                        | .01                                | 1.49                             | 2.29   | 3.94                                    |
| 1963.....            | 109,080                 | 18.4       | 12.6                  | 16.4                     | 30.3                         | —                | —                | —          | —                 | .01       | 0.02                        | .01                                | 1.68                             | 2.42   | 4.17                                    |
| 1964.....            | 108,770                 | 18.2       | 11.0                  | 22.2                     | 36.5                         | —                | —                | —          | —                 | .07       | 0.01                        | .01                                | 1.22                             | 2.25   | 5.44                                    |

\*—not available.

TABLE 7.

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1964, taken at 9.- a.m. (G.M.T.) daily at the Bents Park and Health Department, South Shields.

| Month           | Barometer (corrected for elevation, temperature, etc.) | Air Temperature °Fahr. |         |          |         | Hygrometer °Fahr. |          |                   | Earth Temperature °Fahr. |                 | Rainfall (in inches) |                                    |               |      | Wind                               |      |     |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|------|------------------------------------|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------|------|
|                 |                                                        | Average                |         | Absolute |         | Dry Bulb          | Wet Bulb | Relative Humidity | At 1 Foot Depth          | At 4 Feet Depth | Total Fall           | No. of days rain fell .01" or more | Most in a day |      | Direction at 9 a.m. Number of Days |      |     |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |      |
|                 |                                                        | Maximum                | Minimum | Maximum  | Minimum |                   |          |                   |                          |                 |                      |                                    | Date          | Date | Amount                             | Date | N.  | N.E. | E.  | S.E. | S.  | S.W. | W. | N.W. | Calm |
|                 |                                                        |                        |         |          |         |                   |          |                   |                          |                 |                      |                                    |               |      |                                    |      |     |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |      |
|                 |                                                        |                        |         |          |         |                   |          |                   |                          |                 |                      |                                    |               |      |                                    |      |     |      |     |      |     |      |    |      |      |
| January .....   | 30.302                                                 | 44.6                   | 36.4    | 53.9     | 31      | 19                | 83.6     | 37.6              | 43.8                     | .54             | 12                   | .11                                | 12            | 1    | ...                                | 3    | 3   | 4    | 9   | 8    | 3   | ...  |    |      |      |
| February .....  | 29.982                                                 | 45.0                   | 36.5    | 54.0     | 28      | 21                | 80.8     | 38.4              | 43.7                     | .60             | 5                    | .36                                | 23            | ...  | 2                                  | 1    | 6   | 4    | 3   | 6    | 7   | ...  |    |      |      |
| March .....     | 29.980                                                 | 42.2                   | 36.9    | 47.1     | 25      | 11                | 83.2     | 40.0              | 43.9                     | 3.42            | 16                   | 1.06                               | 14            | 2    | 7                                  | 3    | 11  | 5    | ... | 2    | 1   | ...  |    |      |      |
| April .....     | 29.803                                                 | 53.6                   | 42.9    | 65.1     | 27      | 5                 | 75.4     | 46.6              | 44.0                     | 1.99            | 16                   | .55                                | 18            | 2    | 4                                  | 2    | 2   | 4    | 6   | 6    | 4   | ...  |    |      |      |
| May .....       | 29.892                                                 | 60.0                   | 47.6    | 71.3     | 12      | 2                 | 70.8     | 54.6              | 44.1                     | .72             | 10                   | .23                                | 31            | 4    | 3                                  | 1    | 2   | 2    | 7   | 9    | 3   | ...  |    |      |      |
| June .....      | 29.897                                                 | 62.4                   | 50.2    | 75.9     | 26      | 20                | 76.6     | 58.5              | 50.6                     | 2.12            | 13                   | .58                                | 20            | 6    | 5                                  | ...  | 4   | 1    | 2   | 8    | 4   | ...  |    |      |      |
| July .....      | 29.929                                                 | 66.6                   | 53.6    | 75.2     | 24      | 6                 | 77.6     | 61.8              | 59.1                     | 1.11            | 7                    | .78                                | 18            | 2    | 2                                  | 2    | 2   | 1    | 3   | 10   | 9   | ...  |    |      |      |
| August .....    | 29.915                                                 | 65.2                   | 52.7    | 78.3     | 5       | 21                | 79.2     | 61.2              | 60.2                     | 2.46            | 16                   | .66                                | 18            | 5    | 7                                  | 2    | 1   | 3    | 3   | 5    | 5   | ...  |    |      |      |
| September ..... | 29.937                                                 | 63.5                   | 50.7    | 72.4     | 10      | 21                | 76.5     | 56.9              | 57.8                     | 1.90            | 13                   | .88                                | 16            | 1    | 1                                  | 3    | 4   | 4    | 3   | 10   | 4   | ...  |    |      |      |
| October .....   | 29.892                                                 | 54.5                   | 44.1    | 68.9     | 19      | 24                | 81.0     | 49.9              | 53.2                     | .53             | 12                   | .22                                | 5             | 1    | 2                                  | 1    | 3   | 1    | 12  | 7    | 4   | ...  |    |      |      |
| November .....  | 29.960                                                 | 50.7                   | 41.1    | 59.3     | 24      | 10                | 81.4     | 44.6              | 48.3                     | .92             | 13                   | .19                                | 30            | ...  | 3                                  | ...  | 1   | 2    | 5   | 16   | 3   | ...  |    |      |      |
| December .....  | 29.794                                                 | 44.2                   | 34.7    | 55.9     | 6       | 26                | 82.4     | 37.6              | 42.7                     | 1.85            | 18                   | .55                                | 12            | 1    | 1                                  | 1    | 1   | 1    | 8   | 13   | 5   | ...  |    |      |      |
| Averages .....  | 29.940                                                 | 54.4                   | 44.0    | ...      | ...     | ...               | 79.0     | 49.0              | 49.5                     | ...             | ...                  | ...                                | ...           | ...  | ...                                | ...  | ... | ...  | ... | ...  | ... | ...  |    |      |      |
| TOTALS .....    | ...                                                    | ...                    | ...     | ...      | ...     | ...               | ...      | ...               | ...                      | 18.16           | 151                  | ...                                | ...           | 25   | 37                                 | 19   | 40  | 32   | 61  | 100  | 52  | ...  |    |      |      |

## Part II

# Services under the National Health Service Act 1946

---

**Care of Mothers and Young Children.**

**Midwifery.**

**Health Visiting.**

**Vaccination and Immunisation.**

**Ambulance Service.**

**Prevention, Care and After-Care.**

**Home Help Service.**

**Mental Health Services.**

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

### Vital Statistics.

A summary of statistics for mothers and infants is set out on page 18 of this report.

### Ante-Natal Clinics.

During 1964, ante-natal sessions were held at the Municipal Clinic, St. Margaret's Church Hall, Steward Crescent Community Hall and Boldon Lane Clinic. One evening session was held each week for the benefit of mothers who were working or had large families and found it easier to attend when their husband had returned from work.

ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

| Year     | Number of Sessions during year |             | Number of women who attended in year |             | Number of new cases attended in year |             | Total attendances in year |             |
|----------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|
|          | Ante-natal.                    | Post-natal. | Ante-natal.                          | Post-natal. | Ante-natal.                          | Post-natal. | Ante-natal.               | Post-natal. |
| 1961 ... | 301                            | 42          | 2,231                                | 96          | 1,668                                | 96          | 9,719                     | 128         |
| 1962 ... | 320                            | 45          | 2,206                                | 104         | 1,756                                | 104         | 8,849                     | 144         |
| 1963 ... | 308                            | 43          | 2,097                                | 56          | 1,697                                | 54          | 8,741                     | 160         |
| 1964 ... | 315                            | 22          | 2,030                                | 44          | 1,607                                | 44          | 8,287                     | 45          |

### Post-Natal Clinics.

A regular session for this purpose is held weekly at the Municipal Clinic. As the above table shows attendances are extremely poor. This applies especially to multiparae and it would appear that a large number of women neglect to have this important examination although, no doubt, many of them attend their family doctor.

### Child Welfare Clinics.

Child Welfare Clinic sessions were held each week in various parts of the town, as follows:—Municipal Clinic (3), Steward

Crescent Community Hall (2), Baring Street Church Hall (2), St. Margaret's Church Hall (2), Galsworthy Road Church Hall (1), Wenlock Road (1) and Boldon Lane Clinic (2). During the year the clinic at Wenlock Road was moved from the Church Hall to the new Community Hall attached to the Old People's Hostel. The premises and facilities in this new building represent a considerable improvement in surroundings and it is hoped that attendances will increase as a result of this. Because of extremely poor attendances, partly due to the great difficulty in heating the premises, it was decided that the clinic in Galsworthy Road Church Hall should be closed during the winter months. The clinic was therefore closed from December 1st, 1964 and is to be re-opened in April 1965.

Dr. J. Walmsley reports as follows :—

The attendances at the child welfare clinics continued at a high level, despite the fact that several general practitioners in the town hold "well baby" clinics. It may be that it will be some time before the idea that only a child who is ill needs to be taken to a doctor's surgery is finally overcome. During 1964 the system of medical examination at the time of the child's first birthday was extended. All mothers were invited by letter to bring their child for a routine examination at the clinic of their choice. A total of 1,617 children were offered the examination and 736 (45.5%) attended. This response is somewhat disappointing, but since this is the first full year of operation it may be that future years will show an improvement. The value of this first year examination in assessing the general progress and development of a child is considerable. It is of particular importance to those children in the "at risk" groups, *i.e.* those in whom the pregnancy or birth were in some way abnormal and who therefore may possibly develop handicaps in later life. A complete register of such infants is kept in the department.

The problems of child welfare work change from one generation to another. A few decades ago the main problem was under-nourishment while now the problem of the over-weight child is becoming increasingly important. In most cases this is caused

simply by over-feeding and in spite of the spate of advice from various sources, the problem of infant feeding still makes up a considerable proportion of the child welfare medical officer's work.

#### ATTENDANCES OF CHILDREN AT CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

| Year | No. of sessions held | No. of children attended in year | No. of children attending |              | Total Attendances |             |
|------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------|
|      |                      |                                  | Under 1 year              | over 1 year* | Under 1 year      | Over 1 year |
| 1962 | 654                  | 6,999                            | 1,866                     | 5,133        | 28,113            | 11,679      |
| 1963 | 646                  | 6,127                            | 1,650                     | 4,477        | 27,350            | 11,022      |
| 1964 | 757                  | 5,416                            | 1,307                     | 4,109        | 20,802            | 10,303      |

\*These figures include children attending for pre-school medical examination.

#### Distribution of Welfare Foods.

Welfare Food, *i.e.* National Dried Milk and vitamin preparations for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five continued to be distributed daily at the Municipal Clinic and at all child welfare clinic sessions in other parts of the town. Plans were made for proprietary brand foods to be sold from January 1965.

As the following table shows, there was a substantial fall in the sale of all Welfare Foods in 1964.

| Year | National Dried Milk (tins) | Cod Liver Oil (bottles) | Vitamin A & D Tablets (packets) | Orange Juice (Bottles) | Virol (cartons) |
|------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1960 | 78,916                     | 6,681                   | 4,231                           | 52,532                 | 1,476           |
| 1961 | 71,361                     | 4,287                   | 2,750                           | 27,104                 | 1,144           |
| 1962 | 65,873                     | 2,236                   | 1,582                           | 14,191                 | 1,004           |
| 1963 | 67,439                     | 2,102                   | 1,443                           | 17,461                 | 1,303           |
| 1964 | 58,573                     | 1,725                   | 1,117                           | 16,496                 | 1,056           |

## Routine Medical Examination of Pre-School Children.

Arrangements whereby parents are invited to bring all children between four and five years of age for a routine examination at a child welfare clinic of their choice were continued. The Table below shows that almost 70% of those invited attended for examination. It is hoped that in future years all children of the appropriate age group will be offered this examination and that an increasingly high proportion will accept. The value of the examination is considerable since it means that disabilities discovered can often be corrected before the child starts school and any necessary immunisation can be carried out.

| Year | No. of children<br>offered<br>examination | No. of children<br>examined (%) | No. referred<br>to general<br>practitioners<br>and hospitals |
|------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1962 | 1184                                      | 1043 (88.1)                     | 53                                                           |
| 1963 | 1440                                      | 1039 (72.1)                     | 29                                                           |
| 1964 | 1550                                      | 1078 (69.6)                     | 131                                                          |

## Priority Dental Service for Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under School Age.

Mr. A. B. Gibson, Principal Dental Officer, reports as follows:—

Sessions were held daily at both the Municipal Clinic and Boldon Lane Clinic. The professional time involved amounted to about one quarter of a whole-time dental officer.

Details of the work undertaken during the year are as follows:—

### A. Numbers provided with Dental Care.

|                               | Examined | Needing<br>Treatment | Treated | Made<br>Dentally<br>Fit |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Expectant and Nursing Mothers | 28       | 28                   | 28      | 28                      |
| Children under 5 .....        | 115      | 115                  | 115     | 115                     |

### B. Forms of Dental Treatment provided.

|                                        | Scaling and<br>gum treatment | Fillings | Extractions | Dentures<br>Full | Partial |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|-------------|------------------|---------|
| Expectant and Nursing<br>Mothers ..... | 9                            | 18       | 28          | 2                | 4       |
| Children under 5 .....                 | —                            | 8        | 248         | —                | —       |

The reduction in numbers of mothers and pre-school children attending the clinic could well reflect an increase in the dental fitness of the nation as a whole. There is apparently no decrease in the numbers of patients seeking treatment from the National Health Service but the average amount of treatment required to secure individual dental fitness is decreasing. This trend has been more noticeable in the South of England where people are more tooth conscious.

A dental auxiliary was appointed during 1964 and it is hoped she will be able to spend some time attending clinic sessions when mothers and children are present and thus be able to offer education and advice in dental care to these important groups.

Wherever possible, children attending clinics for pre-school medical examinations were offered the opportunity of a dental inspection. It is hoped to encourage these children to continue attending during their school years.

### **Phenylketonuria.**

Health Visitors continued to test urine of all infants between the third and sixth week of life for phenylketonuria. No positive result has yet been recorded.

### **Congenital Abnormalities.**

As requested by the Ministry of Health, arrangements have been made for the collection of information on the incidence of congenital malformations in all children born in the town. The doctor or midwife was asked to note any congenital abnormality present at birth on the birth notification card sent to the Health Department. Form S.D.56 was then completed and forwarded to the General Register Office. During the year 35 live and 3 stillborn infants were notified as having congenital abnormalities, representing an incidence of 18·7 per thousand total births. Abnormalities notified in these 38 infants totalled 58, an incidence of 28·6 abnormalities per thousand total births. A more detailed breakdown of the figures is given in the accompanying table.

| Abnormalities of :          | Number | Rate per 1,000 total births |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Central Nervous System ...  | 12     | 5.9                         |
| Eye, Ear .....              | 3      | 1.4                         |
| Alimentary System .....     | 15     | 7.4                         |
| Heart and great vessels ... | 4      | 1.9                         |
| Respiratory system .....    | 3      | 1.4                         |
| Urogenital system .....     | 5      | 2.5                         |
| Limbs .....                 | 7      | 3.5                         |
| Other skeletal .....        | 3      | 1.4                         |
| Other systems .....         | 3      | 1.4                         |
| Other malformations .....   | 3      | 1.4                         |
| Total .....                 | 58     | 28.6                        |

### Children “At Risk.”

Arrangements for the notification of children in special “at risk” groups were continued in 1964. A total of 642 casts were notified and a register was maintained by Dr. Sherratt. The aim of the “at risk” register is to ensure that those children particularly liable to develop any form of handicap, receive some degree of extra attention from the Local Authority Health Services. Any handicap which might develop can then be assessed and dealt with as early as possible. However, in view of the large number of births involved it is likely that some revision of the “at risk” categories may be necessary in the future.

### Day Nurseries.

The following is a statement of the work of the two Day Nurseries, numbers 1 and 29 Beach Road, for the past year. There is accommodation for 40 children in each nursery.

|                                                   | No. 1<br>Beach Road | No. 29<br>Beach Road |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Number of children on register at end of 1963 ... | 47                  | 50                   |
| Admissions during 1964:                           |                     |                      |
| Under 2 years old ... ..                          | 26                  | 36                   |
| 2—5 years old ... ..                              | 28                  | 33                   |
| Number of attendances during 1964:                |                     |                      |
| Under 2 years old ... ..                          | 2,430               | 2,481                |
| 2—5 years old ... ..                              | 5,738               | 5,841                |
| Average attendance per session:                   |                     |                      |
| Under 2 years old ... ..                          | 9.5                 | 9.7                  |
| 2—5 years old ... ..                              | 22.4                | 22.8                 |
| Number of children on register at end of 1964:    |                     |                      |
| Under 2 years old ... ..                          | 14                  | 10                   |
| 2—5 years old ... ..                              | 31                  | 34                   |

The Day Nurseries are authorised as a training school for the Nursery Nurses Certificate and during 1964, four student nursery nurses were successful in obtaining their certificates. The interchange of student nursery nurses between the nursery school classes at Harton Infant School and the Day Nursery continues satisfactorily. During the year the nurseries were visited by student nurses, teachers in training, school children and by 20 Girl Guides who attended for one full day to qualify for their Child Care Badge.

In April 1964 there was a mild outbreak of dysentery in both nurseries. Since then the medical examination for all new admissions to the nursery has included the submission of a specimen of faeces for bacteriological examination.

Improvements in the outside play area at number 29 Beach Road have been undertaken during the year.

### **Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.**

There were no further applications for registration during 1964. The two registered premises in the town were visited during the year and found to be satisfactory.

### **Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child.**

The scheme for the care of illegitimate children and unmarried mothers is carried out jointly by the Council and the Jarrow Deanery Moral Welfare Association. A full-time welfare worker is employed with an office in South Shields although her duties cover also the areas of neighbouring authorities. The following is a summary of the work done by the welfare worker in South Shields during 1964.

|                                                     | 1963 | 1964 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------|------|
| No. of unmarried mothers seeking help and advice    | 74   | 72   |
| No. of married women with illegitimate children ... | 10   | 7    |
| No. of divorced women with illegitimate children    | 1    | —    |
| No. of putative fathers interviewed .....           | 5    | 8    |
| No. of other cases .....                            | 16   | 11   |
| No. of South Shields children placed for adoption   | 28   | 25   |

The South Shields Town Council make a grant of £560 per year towards the cost of this service. Twenty-eight unmarried girls were admitted to mother and baby homes for care before and after confinement at a cost to the Council of £793.

## Family Planning Association.

The Council continued to accept financial responsibility for women referred on medical grounds from local authority clinics to the Family Planning Association. During the year the South Shields Branch of the Association began to prescribe oral contraceptives and the Council agreed to meet the increased cost of patients recommended for this form of treatment. A total of 47 women were referred from local authority clinics at a cost to the authority of approximately £66.

## MIDWIFERY SERVICE

### Notification of Births.

The number of births notified in the County Borough during 1964 was as follows:—

|                                                                                                 | <i>Live<br/>Births</i> | <i>Still<br/>Births</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Domiciliary Births ... ..                                                                       | 818                    | 5                       |
| Births in South Shields Maternity Hospital ... ..                                               | 1,060                  | 63                      |
|                                                                                                 | <hr/> 1,878            | <hr/> 68                |
| <i>Less :—</i>                                                                                  |                        |                         |
| Born in South Shields Maternity Hospital to mothers<br>not normally resident in the town ... .. | 351                    | 28                      |
|                                                                                                 | <hr/> 1,527            | <hr/> 40                |
| <i>Add :—</i>                                                                                   |                        |                         |
| Born outside South Shields to mothers normally<br>resident in the town ... ..                   | 445                    | 5                       |
| Net Total of Births to South Shields Mothers ..                                                 | <hr/> 1,972            | <hr/> 45                |

The Institutions outside the County Borough where the births occurred were as follows:—

|                                                    | <i>Live<br/>Births</i> | <i>Still<br/>Births</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Danesfield Maternity Home, Jarrow ... ..           | 365                    | 2                       |
| Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle ... .. | 48                     | 3                       |
| Hopedene Maternity Hospital, Newcastle ... ..      | 15                     | —                       |
| Dilston Hall Nursing Home ... ..                   | 2                      | —                       |
| Royal Infirmary, Sunderland ... ..                 | 2                      | —                       |
| Maternity Hospital, Sunderland ... ..              | 4                      | —                       |
| Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead ... ..         | 3                      | —                       |
| Ashleigh Nursing Home, Gosforth ... ..             | 2                      | —                       |
| General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne ... ..       | 2                      | —                       |
| Thorpe Maternity Hospital ... ..                   | 1                      | —                       |
| Preston Hospital, North Shields ... ..             | 1                      | —                       |
|                                                    | <hr/> 445              | <hr/> 5                 |

## Place of Confinement.

In table 7, page 44 the place of confinement of South Shields births is set out for the last ten years. Though the proportion of births taking place in institutions is increasing and is now 58·5% this is still below the national average and below the suggested optimum of 70%. It should also be pointed out that 31·6% of the institutional births took place in Danesfield Maternity Home which is a general practitioner unit and does not have all the facilities of a maternity hospital. It is therefore not suitable for cases considered to be in high risk groups. Plans are being made for the provision of more beds at the South Shields Maternity Hospital during 1965.

Table 8 gives an analysis of births to South Shields mothers by age, parity and place of delivery. The percentage (78·6%) of first births occurring in hospital remains high. It is, however, disappointing to note that of the 132 births to women with more than four previous pregnancies, 46 (34·8%) occurred at home.

It is now generally accepted that women with more than four previous pregnancies are particularly liable to complications of pregnancy and labour and should, therefore, be confined in hospital. The problem of educating women about this particular risk is a considerable one but it is hoped that the continuing efforts of doctors and midwives will improve the situation.

TABLE 7  
BIRTHS FOR SOUTH SHIELDS COUNTY BOROUGH.

| Year      | NET LIVE BIRTHS |                                    |                    |       | STILLBIRTHS |                                    |                 |       | Still Birth Rate | Percentage of Births in Hospital |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|------------------|----------------------------------|
|           | Home            | South Shields Maternity Hospital * | Other Institutions | Total | Home        | South Shields Maternity Hospital * | Other Hospitals | Total |                  |                                  |
| 1955..... | 1,073           | 617 (222)                          | 270                | 1,960 | 16          | 43 (19)                            | 1               | 60    | 29.7             | 46.1                             |
| 1956..... | 1,052           | 580 (256)                          | 303                | 1,935 | 7           | 38 (25)                            | 5               | 50    | 25.2             | 46.7                             |
| 1957..... | 1,203           | 516 (121)                          | 395                | 2,114 | 18          | 28 (18)                            | 13              | 59    | 27.2             | 43.8                             |
| 1958..... | 1,317           | 423 (180)                          | 325                | 2,065 | 8           | 26 (13)                            | 4               | 38    | 18.1             | 37.0                             |
| 1959..... | 1,302           | 555 (244)                          | 310                | 2,167 | 13          | 37 (16)                            | 5               | 55    | 24.8             | 40.8                             |
| 1960..... | 1,173           | 580 (248)                          | 255                | 2,008 | 3           | 46 (17)                            | 2               | 51    | 24.8             | 42.9                             |
| 1961..... | 1,184           | 629 (314)                          | 226                | 2,039 | 12          | 35 (13)                            | 2               | 49    | 23.5             | 42.7                             |
| 1962..... | 1,008           | 666 (317)                          | 304                | 1,978 | 5           | 34 (20)                            | 6               | 45    | 22.4             | 49.9                             |
| 1963..... | 895             | 710 (334)                          | 387                | 1,992 | 7           | 30 (19)                            | 5               | 42    | 20.5             | 55.7                             |
| 1964..... | 818             | 709 (351)                          | 445                | 1,972 | 5           | 35 (28)                            | 5               | 45    | 22.8             | 58.5                             |

\*The figures in parenthesis refer to births occurring in the Maternity Hospital to mothers who are not resident in South Shields.

TABLE 8

**LIVE BIRTHS BY AGE AND PARITY OF MOTHER AND BY PLACE OF OCCURRENCE 1964.**

(as supplied through Registrar General's Office)

| Parity of Mother | * Place of Delivery | AGE OF MOTHER |          |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                  |                     | All Ages      | Under 20 | 20— | 25— | 30— | 35— | 40— | 45+ |
| 0.....           | (a) .....           | 449           | 91       | 207 | 104 | 36  | 9   | 2   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | 5             | 1        | 2   | 2   | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 90            | 17       | 50  | 16  | 6   | 1   | ... | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 33            | 11       | 20  | 2   | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 1.....           | (a) .....           | 271           | 18       | 94  | 94  | 43  | 21  | 1   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | 8             | ...      | 1   | 4   | 3   | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 262           | 12       | 94  | 92  | 45  | 19  | ... | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 34            | 3        | 21  | 9   | 1   | ... | ... | ... |
| 2.....           | (a) .....           | 149           | 2        | 31  | 56  | 28  | 28  | 4   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | 3             | ...      | ... | 1   | 2   | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 162           | 1        | 37  | 68  | 39  | 14  | 3   | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 8             | ...      | 2   | 4   | 2   | ... | ... | ... |
| 3.....           | (a) .....           | 61            | ...      | 3   | 16  | 23  | 16  | 3   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 97            | ...      | 10  | 34  | 34  | 16  | 3   | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 2             | ...      | 1   | 1   | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 4.....           | (a) .....           | 48            | ...      | 8   | 7   | 11  | 15  | 7   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 43            | ...      | 2   | 16  | 15  | 10  | ... | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 2             | ...      | ... | ... | 1   | 1   | ... | ... |
| 5—9.....         | (a) .....           | 81            | ...      | ... | 10  | 30  | 24  | 17  | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 45            | ...      | 1   | 7   | 15  | 15  | 7   | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 10—14.....       | (a) .....           | 5             | ...      | ... | ... | 1   | 2   | 2   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 1             | ...      | ... | ... | ... | 1   | ... | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 15+ .....        | (a) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | ...           | ...      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Illegitimate ... | (a) .....           | 82            | 26       | 31  | 5   | 12  | 7   | 1   | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | 2             | 2        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 32            | 8        | 5   | 6   | 5   | 4   | 4   | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 1             | ...      | ... | 1   | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TOTAL .....      | (a) .....           | 1,146         | 137      | 374 | 292 | 184 | 122 | 37  | ... |
|                  | (b) .....           | 18            | 3        | 3   | 7   | 5   | ... | ... | ... |
|                  | (c) .....           | 732           | 38       | 199 | 239 | 159 | 80  | 17  | ... |
|                  | (d) .....           | 80            | 14       | 44  | 17  | 4   | 1   | ... | ... |

\*Place of Delivery

(a) N.H.S. Hospitals.

(b) Non-N.H.S. Hospitals (mainly Maternity Homes).

(c) At Home.

(d) Other.

TABLE 9

| Weight at birth                                      | PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS |                         |                       |                        |                                   |                         |                       |                        |                                               |                         |                       |                        |    | Premature stillbirths |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----|-----------------------|
|                                                      | Born in hospital      |                         |                       |                        | Born at home or in a nursing home |                         |                       |                        | Transferred to hospital on or before 28th day |                         |                       |                        |    |                       |
|                                                      | Total births          | Died                    |                       |                        | Total births                      | Died                    |                       |                        | Total births                                  | Died                    |                       |                        |    |                       |
|                                                      |                       | within 24 hrs. of birth | in 1 and under 7 days | in 7 and under 28 days |                                   | within 24 hrs. of birth | in 1 and under 7 days | in 7 and under 28 days |                                               | within 24 hrs. of birth | in 1 and under 7 days | in 7 and under 28 days |    |                       |
|                                                      |                       |                         |                       |                        |                                   |                         |                       |                        |                                               |                         |                       |                        |    |                       |
| 1 2lb. 3oz. or less .....                            | 4                     | 3                       | ...                   | ...                    | 2                                 | 1                       | ...                   | ...                    | 2                                             | 1                       | ...                   | ...                    | 5  | 1                     |
| 2 Over 2lb. 3oz. up to and including 3lb. 4oz. ....  | 7                     | 3                       | 2                     | ...                    | 3                                 | ...                     | 1                     | ...                    | ...                                           | ...                     | ...                   | ...                    | 6  | ...                   |
| 3 Over 3lb. 4oz. up to and including 4lb. 6oz. ....  | 15                    | 1                       | 2                     | ...                    | 6                                 | 2                       | ...                   | ...                    | 2                                             | ...                     | ...                   | ...                    | 7  | 2                     |
| 4 Over 4lb. 6oz. up to and including 4lb. 15oz. .... | 19                    | 3                       | ...                   | ...                    | 7                                 | ...                     | 1                     | ...                    | 3                                             | ...                     | ...                   | ...                    | 2  | ...                   |
| 5 Over 4lb. 15oz. up to and including 5lb. 8oz. .... | 30                    | 1                       | 1                     | ...                    | 47                                | 1                       | ...                   | ...                    | 5                                             | 1                       | ...                   | ...                    | 2  | 2                     |
| 6 Total .....                                        | 75                    | 11                      | 5                     | ...                    | 65                                | 4                       | 2                     | ...                    | 12                                            | 2                       | ...                   | ...                    | 22 | 5                     |

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

## Care of Premature Infants.

During 1964 there were 152 live births of infants weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less at birth. Further details of these births are given in Table 9 on page 46. Of the 45 stillbirths recorded 27 were premature of which 22 were born in hospital and 5 at home.

## Intention to Practise.

Forty-five midwives notified their intention to practise during 1964. Of these, 18 were in the maternity hospital and 27 were in practise as domiciliary midwives.

## Domiciliary Midwives.

Attention was given in 821 domiciliary births, 81 fewer than in 1963. Of the total births to South Shields residents, 41.5% occurred at home. In 425 cases medical aid was sought by midwives under section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act 1951.

In addition 1,075 patients were nursed on discharge from hospital before the tenth day. Of these, 160 were discharged by the third day and 653 between the fourth and seventh day.

The number of visits paid was as follows:—

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Maternity and nursing visits ..... | 22,495             |
| Ante-natal visits .....            | 7,674              |
| Post-natal visits .....            | 3,737              |
| Total .....                        | <hr/> 33,906 <hr/> |

## Analgesia.

Some 541 patients had gas and air or trilene administered by midwives. This represents 66.1% of home deliveries.

All domiciliary midwives are qualified to administer analgesia. Six sets of 'gas and air' apparatus and twenty-one trilene sets are available.

## Domiciliary Midwifery Staff.

|                              | <i>Full-time</i> | <i>Part-time</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| On 1st January, 1964 .....   | 23               | 1                |
| Appointed during year .....  | 3                | —                |
| Left during the year .....   | 2                | —                |
| On 31st December, 1964 ..... | 24               | 1                |

These figures exclude the non-medical supervisor of midwives and the matron of the Part II Training School.

Nurse Gollop retired in May 1964 after 27 years service in the South Shields Domiciliary Midwifery Service. She was made an honorary member of the Royal College of Midwives in recognition of her long service.

Four midwives attended refresher courses during the year.

### **Ante-Natal Care.**

Details of Ante-Natal Clinics are given on page 35.

Arrangements were made for all patients visiting the Municipal ante-natal clinics to have a full plate chest X-ray at the General Hospital. Any abnormalities noted on the X-ray are notified to the patient's family doctor for further supervision.

### **Maternity Outfits.**

Complete outfits were distributed to 1,014 expectant mothers during 1964.

### **Part II Training.**

The following is a summary of the work:—

|                                                                                |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| In training on 1st January, 1964 .....                                         | 8  |
| New students during 1964 .....                                                 | 17 |
| Still in training on 31st December 1964 .....                                  | 6  |
| Number of students who entered for Part II of<br>the Board's examination ..... | 14 |
| Number of students who passed examination...                                   | 13 |

The Training School remains popular with pupil midwives from all parts of England and the Commonwealth. The valuable help of the approved teachers in the domiciliary midwifery service is much appreciated. Many students are disappointed to find that after completing their training they are not able to obtain employment with the South Shields Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

The non medical supervisor of midwives, Mrs. S. A. Innes reports as follows:—

There was a slight rise in the number of patients discharged from hospital before the tenth day and particularly in the number of discharges between the fourth and seventh day after delivery. In South Shields there is no scheme for planned 48 hour discharge

from hospital but there is an arrangement whereby patients originally booked for domiciliary confinement and admitted to hospital as emergencies are discharged home 48 hours after delivery, if this is considered medically advisable. Occasionally the early discharge of a mother from hospital can create problems for the domiciliary service, particularly in those cases where no arrangements have been made to ensure that the patient's home is suitable.

A problem that still arises too frequently is the late booking of a midwife for district confinement. This means that ante-natal care cannot be carried out throughout pregnancy and considerably increases the risk of serious complications to both the mother and baby. It is essential that all women should book a doctor and midwife as early as possible in every pregnancy.

## HEALTH VISITING

The Superintendent Health Visitor, Miss E. Mycock, reports as follows :—

The duties of health visitors have expanded far beyond the field of child welfare and now include preventive work in mental health, care of the aged and a wide variety of health and welfare subjects. Increasing emphasis is being placed on health education and it is particularly pleasing to note that a number of schools are asking health visitors to give talks and demonstrations to senior girls on various aspects of 'growing up.' This includes instruction in mothercraft and domestic management which, in view of the decreasing age of marriage and parenthood, is becoming more important. It is hoped that in future these subjects will form part of the curriculum in all senior schools.

Details of the work of the health visitors in 1964 are set out below :—

|    | Cases visited by Health Visitors                                                                  | Number of cases |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Children born in 1964 ... ..                                                                      | 1,886           |
| 2  | Children born in 1963 ... ..                                                                      | 1,892           |
| 3  | Children born in 1959-62 ... ..                                                                   | 5,073           |
| 4  | Total number of children in lines 1—3 ...                                                         | 8,851           |
| 5  | Persons aged 65 or over ... ..                                                                    | 1,006           |
| 6  | Number included in line 5 who were visited at the special request of a G.P. or hospital...        | 38              |
| 7  | Mentally disordered persons ... ..                                                                | 17              |
| 8  | Number included in line 7 who were visited at the special request of a G.P. or hospital...        | —               |
| 9  | Persons, excluding Maternity cases, discharged from hospital (other than mental hospitals) ... .. | 500             |
| 10 | Number included in line 9 who were visited at the special request of a G.P. or hospital...        | 59              |
| 11 | Number of tuberculous households visited ...                                                      | 127             |
| 12 | Number of households visited on account of other infectious diseases ... ..                       | 899             |

## Staff.

The staff comprises a superintendent health visitor and sixteen full-time health visitors. Miss D. Blenkinsop left the department in July 1964 on her appointment as deputy matron at the South Shields General Hospital. One student health visitor commenced her training in Newcastle in October but there is continuing difficulty in filling the annual establishment of two student health visitors.

## Attachment of Health Visitors to General Practice.

Continuing the policy of attaching health visitors to general practices, three more health visitors were allocated on a part-time basis in March 1964, making a total of six serving six surgeries and 14 doctors. Initially the health visitors visited the family doctor's patients in any part of the town but in November the scheme was reviewed and in view of the amount of travelling time and unsuccessful visits under the existing arrangements it was decided to appoint one health visitor on a full-time basis to one general practice. Other health visitors were to continue visiting

the respective doctor's surgeries once weekly to act as liaison officers between the doctors and other members of the health visiting staff. As a result a much closer liaison has been established between general practitioners and health visitors.

## **Co-operation with the Hospital Service.**

There is a rota system whereby for a period of four weeks each health visitor makes weekly visits to the children's ward and the special baby care unit at the General Hospital. This provides an invaluable link between the hospital and the health visiting service and has been particularly helpful in allowing health visitors to see the latest trends in hospital child care. During the year the health visitors carried out a special survey at the request of Dr. Creery, the Consultant Paediatrician. Children born in the South Shields Maternity Hospital and given antibiotics, were visited to see if there was any discolouration of the teeth resulting from this treatment.

The Superintendent Health Visitor attends the geriatric ward on alternate weeks for a ward round with Dr. Nichols, the Consultant Geriatric Physician, the Almoner and the Senior Social Worker from the Welfare Department. Patients' social problems are discussed and the value of this in co-ordinating services for the elderly is considerable.

## **Geriatric Day Centre.**

The health visitors attend the geriatric day clinic at Boldon Lane. A more detailed account of the clinic is given on page 64.

## **Child Guidance Clinic.**

The health visitors continue to act as social workers to this clinic, attending on a rota basis. The Psychiatrist finds their knowledge of the home background of considerable assistance. Further details of this clinic are given in the Annual Report of the Principal School Medical Officer.

## Health Education.

In addition to the talks given to senior school girls already mentioned, and to their routine work as health educators in the child welfare field, health visitors gave a number of talks to various organisations. These included the British Red Cross Society, Marine and Technical College and a course of lectures on Home Nursing to members of the Home Help Service.

## Assessment of Hearing in Babies and Young Children.

Health visitors continued to carry out screening tests of hearing on young children, particularly those in the "at risk" groups. Where possible, the first test is done at about the age of 9 months. Details of testing in 1964 are given below.

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Number given initial tests .....   | 422 |
| Number re-tested .....             | 19  |
| Referred to Specialist .....       | 2   |
| Referred to Speech Therapist ..... | 5   |
| Referred for audiometry .....      | 2   |

## Refresher Courses.

Three health visitors attended a two week refresher course in Oxford, two attended a two day course in Durham for instruction in techniques of hearing tests, two attended a course on family psychiatry in Ipswich and eight attended a one day course in Durham on speech therapy.

## HOME NURSING SERVICE

This service is carried out on behalf of the Corporation by the South Shields and District Nursing Association. It is therefore not under the direct control of the Medical Officer of Health but close liaison with the Superintendent and the Health Department staff is maintained.

Miss M. Stoddart, Superintendent of the South Shields and District Nursing Association reports as follows.

At the beginning of 1964 the staff of the Association comprised the Matron, 15 District Nurses and one male nurse.

During the year two nurses completed their training. One was a male nurse so that there are now two men working in the service. This is of considerable value in dealing with the large number of male patients. The inevitable turnover of younger members of staff has continued but the invaluable work of those nurses with many years of service, together with the help of part-time nurses, has ensured that demands have been met.

Referrals continue to come for the most part from general practitioners but a small percentage are referred from hospitals, health visitors, the home help service or by relatives of patients. The "Ansa-phone" has been of great value in recording messages.

The nurses made 56,596 visits in 1964, compared with 51,052 in 1963. Injections continued to form a large part of the work and a total of 19,876 injections were given. About half of the new patients attended were over the age of 65 years and the role of the home nursing service in supporting cases awaiting admission to hospital or welfare home continues. There are now three full-time and three part-time nurses using cars and where possible they work in the outlying districts of the town.

Following present trends an increasing amount of disposable equipment is being used, particularly syringes, gloves and urinals. The introduction of a service for providing incontinence pads for suitable cases has proved most successful. These are now supplied through the Local Health Authority as a standard item of equipment for the nursing service and are particularly valuable in relieving the family of a great deal of work. No particular difficulty has been experienced in arranging the disposal of these pads.

A summary of the work done in 1964 is set out below.

|                                  | 1964        | 1963        |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cases on books 1st January ..... | 372         | 414         |
| New cases :—                     |             |             |
| Medical .....                    | 713         | 703         |
| Surgical .....                   | 247         | 289         |
| Ear, Nose and Throat .....       | 43          | 47          |
| Carcinoma .....                  | 116         | 123         |
| Maternal Complications .....     | 11          | 10          |
| Pneumonia .....                  | 79          | 40          |
| Diabetes .....                   | 24          | 24          |
| Cerebral condition .....         | 95          | 88          |
| Tuberculosis .....               | 20          | 18          |
|                                  | <hr/> 1,348 | <hr/> 1,342 |

Cases on books at 31st December, 1964 — 424.

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The general schemes for immunisation and vaccination procedures followed the same pattern as last year; immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus was commenced at the third month of life and this was followed by a course of oral vaccine against poliomyelitis. Vaccination against smallpox was postponed to the child's second year (see page 56). There is extensive use of combined vaccines and table 10 on page 55 sets out the usual schedule of vaccination and immunisation procedures, though this can be varied at the discretion of the medical officer.

Quite a large proportion of parents who brought their infants for a routine one year old examination had them vaccinated at that visit, but the total number of children protected against smallpox remains comparatively small.

A course of tetanus injections was given to children aged 10-11 years as this had not been available to them in infancy. A number of parents refuse this because the children have had one anti-tetanus injection at hospital at the time of an accident. It is not generally realised that this often gives only temporary protection and it is hoped that increasing numbers of children will be actively immunised with tetanus toxoid, so reducing the need for tetanus anti-toxin at the time of an injury.

### Vaccination against Smallpox.

The number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations performed during the year are given below.

|                               | Under<br>year | 1—4<br>years | 5—14<br>years | 15 years<br>and over | Total |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|-------|
| Primary Vaccination (a) ..... | 59            | 390          | 14            | 7                    | 470   |
| (b) .....                     | 22            | 73           | 18            | 89                   | 202   |
| Re-vaccination (a) .....      | —             | —            | 4             | 80                   | 84    |
| (b) .....                     | —             | 6            | 25            | 180                  | 211   |
| Total .....                   | 81            | 469          | 61            | 356                  | 967   |

(a) In clinics or schools.

(b) By General Practitioners.

**TABLE 10**  
**PRIMARY IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME—SCHEDULE P. (Modified).**

| Vaccine                                           | Visit       | Age                                                                           | Interval                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Smallpox Vaccination                              | 1           | During first 2 years, preferably during second year.                          | At least 3 weeks before other vaccines.<br>At least 2 weeks after other vaccines. |
| Triple Antigen (Diphtheria Pertussis and Tetanus) | 2<br>3<br>4 | First injection to commence between 3 months and 6 months.                    | 4—6 weeks between each injection.                                                 |
| Poliomyelitis (oral) Vaccine.                     | 5<br>6<br>7 | Between 7 and 11 months or to commence at least 4 weeks after Triple vaccine. | 4—8 weeks between each dose.                                                      |
| Triple Antigen                                    | 8           | Between 18 & 21 months.                                                       |                                                                                   |
| Diphtheria and Tetanus Vaccine (Adsorbed).        | 9           | Between 4—5 years.                                                            |                                                                                   |
| Diphtheria and Tetanus Vaccine (Adsorbed).        | 10          | Between 8—10 years.                                                           |                                                                                   |
| B.C.G.                                            | 11          | Between 10—13 years.                                                          | At least 4 weeks after other vaccines and no other vaccine for 3 months.          |

The numbers vaccinated in infancy have decreased but this can be attributed to the Ministry of Health recommendation whereby vaccination is carried out during the second year of life. Fewer children attend clinics at this age and the acceptance rate has naturally diminished. There is also a considerable decrease in the number of persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated in older age groups but this can, to a certain extent, be expected following the large numbers of people protected in 1962.

The following table shows the number of successful vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out during the past five years.

|                   |           | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Under 1 year      | (a) ..... | 790  | 997  | 319  | 379  | 81   |
|                   | (b) ..... | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| 1—4 years         | (a) ..... | 52   | 83   | 322  | 372  | 463  |
|                   | (b) ..... | 11   | 8    | 21   | 31   | 6    |
| 5—14 years        | (a) ..... | 28   | 50   | 348  | 439  | 32   |
|                   | (b) ..... | 12   | 22   | 114  | 146  | 29   |
| 15 years and over | (a) ..... | 71   | 104  | 467  | 497  | 96   |
|                   | (b) ..... | 141  | 109  | 632  | 798  | 260  |
| Total .....       | (a) ..... | 941  | 1216 | 1456 | 1687 | 672  |
|                   | (b) ..... | 169  | 139  | 767  | 975  | 295  |

(a) Primary Vaccination.

(b) Re-vaccination.

Percentage of children under 5 years protected ... 36.4%

percentage of total population protected ..... 7.6%

(Assuming protection to last 5 years)

### *DIPHTHERIA.*

### **Diphtheria-Immunisation.**

The number of children immunised against *DIPHTHERIA* diphtheria during 1964 was 1,759 and a further 2,509 received re-inforcement doses. The following table gives further details.

|                                         |           | Under 5 years | 5 years and over | Total |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|------------------|-------|
| Primary Immunisation                    | (a) ..... | 1,385         | 78               | 1,463 |
|                                         | (b) ..... | 289           | 7                | 296   |
| No. of children given reinforcing doses | (a) ..... | 1,222         | 1,192            | 2,414 |
|                                         | (b) ..... | 45            | 50               | 95    |
| Total                                   | (a) ..... | 2,607         | 1,270            | 3,877 |
|                                         | (b) ..... | 334           | 57               | 391   |

(a) In clinics.

(b) By General Practitioner.

The following table gives the number of children who have completed a course of diphtheria immunisation between 1st January, 1950 and 31st December, 1964.

| Age as at 31.12.64<br>(i.e. born in year)                                                | Under 1<br>year<br>1964 | 1—4<br>years<br>1960-<br>1963 | 5—9<br>years<br>1955-<br>1959 | 10—14<br>years<br>1950-<br>1954 | Total<br>under<br>15 yrs. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed 1960-1964 ... | 580                     | 5,892                         | 6,328                         | 1,288                           | 14,088                    |
| B. Number of children whose last course was completed in 1959 or earlier .....           | —                       | —                             | 5,454                         | 7,309                           | 12,763                    |
| C. Estimated mid year child population .....                                             | 1,930                   | 7,770                         | 8,988                         | 8,612                           | 27,230                    |
| D. % immunised 1960-1964                                                                 | 30.1                    | 77.2                          | 70.5                          | 14.9                            | 51.9                      |

### **Pertussis Immunisation.**

Some 1,588 children under 5 years were protected against whooping cough, either singly or in combination with other antigens.

### **Tetanus Immunisation.**

Tetanus immunisation, either singly or in combination with other antigens, was continued for both children under 5 years and children attending school. The number of children who received a primary course of immunisation was 1,771 (under 5 years) and 1,333 school children.

Re-inforcing doses were also given and these were as follows:—

Under 5 years — 1,261.

School children — 1,206.

### **Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.**

Routine use of oral (Sabin) vaccine has now completely replaced Salk vaccine in this Authority's immunisation schedules. During 1964 it was administered by health visitors and school nurses and the following table gives details by age, place and vaccine of individuals receiving primary and reinforcing doses.

Under Ministry of Health Circular 10/63 reinforcing doses were offered to immunised persons at special risk of contracting poliomyelitis.

| PRIMARY VACCINATION |           | Second Injection (Salk) | Third Dose (Oral) | Total |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Under 5 years       | (a) ..... | —                       | 1,498             | 1,716 |
|                     | (b) ..... | 1                       | 217               |       |
| 5—14 years          | (a) ..... | —                       | 511               | 564   |
|                     | (b) ..... | 2                       | 51                |       |
| 15—24 years         | (a) ..... | —                       | 140               | 155   |
|                     | (b) ..... | —                       | 15                |       |
| 25—40 years         | (a) ..... | —                       | 133               | 175   |
|                     | (b) ..... | 4                       | 38                |       |
| Total .....         |           | 7                       | 2,603             | 2,610 |

| REINFORCING DOSES             |           | All Ages | Total |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Sabin Vaccine<br>4th Dose     | (a) ..... | 1,323    | 1,353 |
|                               | (b) ..... |          |       |
| Salk Vaccine<br>3rd Injection | (a) ..... | —        | —     |
|                               | (b) ..... | —        |       |

(a) In clinics or schools.  
(b) By General Practitioners.

It was estimated that by the end of the year 80% of children under 5 years, 90% of children aged 5-14 years and 64% of persons aged 15-39 years had received a primary course of poliomyelitis vaccination.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

The following is a statement of the work of the Ambulance Service during 1964, with comparable figures for the previous year.

### Patients :

|                                                           | 1963   | 1964   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Removals to or from addresses in South Shields            | 42,187 | 53,667 |
| Removals to or from addresses outside South Shields ..... | 7,758  | 7,515  |
| Total patients .....                                      | 49,945 | 61,182 |

## Journeys :

|                                                  | 1963   | 1964   |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Journeys with patients in South Shields .....    | 8,818  | 9,938  |
| Journeys with patients outside South Shields ... | 3,409  | 3,248  |
| Accidents and emergencies .....                  | 2,091  | 2,309  |
| Infectious disease cases .....                   | 46     | —      |
| Midwives with analgesia apparatus .....          | 1,221  | 722    |
| Other journeys .....                             | 151    | 131    |
| Total journeys .....                             | 15,736 | 16,348 |

## Mileage :

|                                     |         |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Mileage in South Shields .....      | 122,743 | 140,160 |
| Mileage outside South Shields ..... | 87,356  | 87,874  |
| Total mileage .....                 | 210,099 | 228,034 |

## Costs

The cost of the service for the year ended 31st March, 1964, was £42,624 which gives a unit cost of 3/9d. per vehicle mile. Corresponding figures for the previous year were £41,093 and 3/11d. per vehicle mile. In 1964 each journey averaged 13·9 miles and 3·7 patients were carried, as compared with 13·4 and 3·2 patients in 1963.

There was a very large increase (23·5%) in the number of patients carried compared with 1963. This placed a heavy burden on the service which never failed to meet all demands. Mileage also increased by 8·5%

## Staff.

At the end of the year, the staff comprised a Superintendent, 4 Chargehands, 24 Driver Attendants, 1 Motor Mechanic, 1 Labourer, 1 Night Telephone Operator. In 1964, Mr. W. S. Bohill, Ambulance Superintendent, was President of the Ambulance Officers' Association, No. 2 Region.

## Vehicles.

No new vehicles were obtained during 1964. The number of vehicles in operation throughout the year was 10.

## **Accident and Emergency Services.**

Arrangements with the Durham County Ambulance Service for the provision of an emergency service to the Whitburn and Cleadon areas of Boldon Urban District continued. This places a considerable burden on the ambulance service and necessitates the employment of extra staff.

The ambulance service was called out to assist Durham County on the occasion of a major accident at a chemical works in Jarrow in October. Two vehicles were sent to this incident and carried 10 casualties to hospital.

## **'999' Calls.**

There were 2,309 emergency calls during the year, compared 2,091 in 1963. Following discussions with the G.P.O. and the Durham County Ambulance Service, all emergency calls for ambulances arising in the area of the Boldon Telephone Exchange are now referred to the South Shields Ambulance Station for necessary action. This has greatly assisted in the smooth running of the emergency service.

## **First Aid.**

All members of the staff held current Proficiency Certificates of the St. John Ambulance Association and the British Red Cross Society.

## **Safe Driving Awards.**

All the Driver/Attendants were recommended for Safe Driving Awards.

## **Civil Defence.**

During 1964, the Ambulance Superintendent was appointed Chief Civil Defence Ambulance Officer. It is hoped that this will lead to increased co-ordination between the Civil Defence and peace-time Ambulance Services, although no further headway was made towards the training of peace-time ambulance staff in civil defence work.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

### Recuperative Holidays.

Recuperative holidays in approved convalescent homes are arranged by the department for persons who are recommended by their family doctor for this form of care and who are unable otherwise to obtain such treatment.

During 1964, 50 applications—15 males and 35 females—were made; these requests came from medical practitioners, almoners and health visitors. Twenty-one patients had a holiday as follows:—

|                                         |   |
|-----------------------------------------|---|
| In the Leazes, Wolsingham.....          | 2 |
| „ Metcalfe Smith House, Harrogate ..... | 5 |
| „ Horn Hall, Stanhope .....             | 4 |
| „ Rose Joicey Home, Whitburn .....      | 6 |
| „ St. Camillus, Hexham .....            | 1 |
| „ Epileptic Colony .....                | 1 |
| „ British Diabetic Home .....           | 1 |
| „ Maitland House, Frinton .....         | 1 |

|      |             |       | Male  | Female |
|------|-------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Aged | 16—25 years | ..... | —     | 2      |
| „    | 26—45 „     | ..... | —     | 6      |
| „    | 46—65 „     | ..... | 4     | 4      |
| „    | 66—75 „     | ..... | —     | 5      |
|      |             |       | <hr/> | <hr/>  |
|      |             |       | 4     | 17     |

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Four weeks' holiday.....   | 1  |
| Two weeks' holiday .....   | 18 |
| Three weeks' holiday ..... | 1  |
| Less than two weeks .....  | 1  |

The conditions necessitating a recuperative holiday were:

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Bronchitis .....       | 3 |
| Post Operative .....   | 1 |
| Neurosis .....         | 2 |
| Debility .....         | 4 |
| Post Pneumonia .....   | 1 |
| Carcinoma .....        | 2 |
| Diabetic .....         | 1 |
| Epilepsy .....         | 1 |
| Other Conditions ..... | 9 |

The gross cost of these holidays to the Local Authority was £216. Seven patients had a total of 14 weeks holiday in the Leazes, Wolsingham, Horn Hall, Stanhope or St. Camillus, Hexham; and these holidays were arranged at no cost to the Corporation through the courtesy of the Brother in Charge, St. Camillus and the Matrons of the Leazes and Horn Hall.

### Provision of Sick Room Requisites.

During 1964, 768 items of nursing equipment were issued to patients being cared for in their home. This was a considerable reduction from the 1,032 items issued in 1963. Most of the equipment is issued from the Municipal Clinic but many items are available at the Boldon Lane Clinic. The articles provided during the year were as follows :—

|                      |     |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----|----------------------|-----------------|
| Bedpans .....        | 152 | Rubber Bedpans ....  | 9               |
| Back Rests .....     | 100 | Commodes .....       | 63              |
| Rubber Sheets .....  | 130 | Hospital Beds .....  | 3               |
| Air Cushions .....   | 69  | Tripod Sticks .....  | 16              |
| Bottles .....        | 92  | Elbow Sticks .....   | 9               |
| Invalid Chairs ..... | 61  | Foam Cushions ....   | 10              |
| Leg Cages .....      | 18  | Other Articles ..... | 18              |
| Dunlop Mattresses    | 11  |                      |                 |
|                      |     |                      | <hr/> 768 <hr/> |

Arrangements for the issue of incontinence pads to those patients requiring them were continued through the South Shields District Nursing Association, (see page 53).

### Family Case Work.

During 1964, the Northumberland and Tyneside Council of Social Service was able to increase the time spent by their family case worker in South Shields to 38 hours per week. A summary of the work done during 1964 is given below.

| Sources of cases referred : | 1963           | 1964           |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Health Department .....     | 22             | 19             |
| Hospital Almoners .....     | 4              | 6              |
| N.S.P.C.C. ....             | 2              | 6              |
| Probation Officer .....     | 2              | 2              |
| Welfare Department .....    | 8              | 8              |
| Other agencies.....         | 2              | 17             |
|                             | <hr/> 40 <hr/> | <hr/> 58 <hr/> |

The Local Authority makes an annual grant of £300 and the case worker deals with a wide range of problems. Many of the families require prolonged and intensive assistance and although it would appear at first sight that only a small proportion of the community benefits from this service, its value as a preventive measure against social distress can be considerable.

### **Children Neglected or Ill-treated in their own Homes.**

The co-ordinating Committee set up in 1951 to consider cases of child neglect and all cases of ill-treatment met regularly during the year. Some five families came to the notice of the Committee during 1964 and as usual the main problems were financial and housing. Though the members of this Committee can help these families by offering advice and guidance, particularly on matters of home management, many of the difficulties encountered are almost intractable.

Section 1 of the Children and Young Person's Act 1963 which came into force during the year, gives local authorities power to take further action to prevent the break up of families and it is hoped that services developed under this Act will be effective in preventing the onset of the serious problems encountered by the Co-ordinating Committee.

### **Night Attendance Service.**

The regular over-night supervision of elderly or ill patients confined to bed at home for long periods can be a particularly difficult problem for relatives. In order to relieve some of the load, a panel of suitable persons willing to undertake the over-night supervision of patients has been set up. Applications for the service are made to the Superintendent Health Visitor who assesses the needs of each case, and allocates help accordingly. Charges are made in accordance with a sliding scale. During the year 11 cases were attended for a total of 20 nights.

### **Chiropody.**

The Chiropody Services operated by the Old People's Welfare Council through the Corporation's Welfare Department continued

to operate during 1964 and the following table shows a summary of the work carried out as compared with previous years.

|                                                      | 1960  | 1961  | 1962  | 1963  | 1964  |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total sessions held .....                            | 184   | 203   | 198   | 194   | 196   |
| Total attendances .....                              | 1,167 | 1,257 | 1,228 | 1,135 | 1,115 |
| Visits paid by chiropodist to patients<br>home ..... | 249   | 249   | 199   | 221   | 267   |
| Total number of patients treated .....               | 442   | 452   | 612   | 655   | 628   |

In December, 1964, the Health Department appointed a qualified chiropodist to work four sessions each week, two of them in the Municipal Clinic and two at the Boldon Lane Clinic. It is hoped that during 1965 this additional provision will help to meet the increasing demand for the services of a chiropodist, particularly by old people.

### **Geriatric Day Centre.**

An entirely new venture in the care of the elderly infirm was set up during 1964 when a geriatric day centre was held on the Monday of each week at the Boldon Lane Clinic. This service, a joint venture between the Public Health Department, the Welfare Department and the Regional Hospital Board, is intended to provide intensive social care and continuing medical supervision to old people discharged from hospitals who might otherwise be unable to continue to live in the community.

Patients are referred by the hospital geriatric staff and are usually old people with additional physical handicaps. They attend the Centre from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each Monday and during this time are provided with a meal, with opportunities for social contacts, with physiotherapy and with advice and guidance on social problems from health visitors and from social workers of the Welfare Department. Medical problems can be discussed with the geriatric physician and a member of the local authority medical staff who attend the clinic for part of each day. The main purpose of the medical supervision is to see each person at regular intervals to assess their general progress and to advise the general practitioner and, where necessary, the social workers about the management of the patient. Close liaison with general practitioners is maintained.

An average attendance of 15 to 18 patients per week has been maintained since the centre opened in February 1964 and although the value of this service is difficult to measure in figures, there seems little doubt that the patients attending the centre find that the opportunity for meeting other people and discussing their problems with the various members of staff is of considerable value. Transport to and from the centre is provided by the Welfare Department whilst various voluntary organisations help in the general supervision of patients and in the serving of meals.

## HEALTH EDUCATION

Dr. A. R. Buchan reports as follows :

The organisation of health education activities in the Department was similar to that outlined in the Annual Report of last year except that campaigns were organised on a quarterly rather than a monthly basis. During 1964 the campaign subjects were :—

January—March

—Prevention of Accidents, in the home, on the roads and at work.

April—June

—Infectious Diseases and their Prevention.

July—September

—Food Hygiene.

October—December

—Services of the Local Health Authority.

A notable event in the first quarter was a public meeting organised under the auspices of the Sunderland and South Shields Industrial Safety Group at which addresses were given by a variety of experts on the prevention of accidents at home, on the roads and at work. At the meeting prizes were awarded to winners of a poster competition held in junior and senior schools during the quarter.

The Food Hygiene Campaign proved particularly apt in view of the Aberdeen typhoid epidemic, following as it did, the three 1963 outbreaks including that in South Shields. Circulars were sent to over 1,000 food establishments, stressing the need for particular care at all stages of food production and distribution. The firms involved were asked to display appropriate posters supplied by the Health Department.

## **Health Education in Schools.**

As was mentioned previously, junior and senior pupils took part in a poster competition on the theme of accident prevention. This venture proved most successful and the panel of Head Teachers who judged the competition had great difficulty in selecting the winners from the many excellent entries. These were displayed in the Municipal Clinic. The co-operation of the Director of Education and all the teaching staff concerned was much appreciated.

During and after the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak efforts were directed to see that school children understood the mode of transmission of typhoid fever and other similar infections. Special emphasis was placed on the importance of personal hygiene and hand washing; particularly in relation to school meals.

There was unfortunately little progress towards establishing a comprehensive health education programme for all schools but it is hoped to resume consultations on this project with the Head Teachers' Association as soon as possible.

## **Exhibition—Flower Show, August.**

Once again the Department took the opportunity to bring a topic of health interest to the notice of the public at the Annual Flower Show. This year the topic was 'Preparation for Retirement,' the main feature of which was colourful display stands on free loan from the Central Council for Health Education.

## **Cohen Report.**

The long awaited Report of the Joint Committee of the Central and Scottish Health Services on Health Education was published during 1964.

The Committee recommended among other things that Health Education was a responsibility of the Local Authority and that specialist Health Education Officers should be appointed to work under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health. The difficulties of training such officers and the expense involved are far outweighed by the need to combat anti-health pressures. The Report, which contains a wealth of information, advocates in short, 'not so much a programme, more a way of life' and will be valuable reference for all future development in this field..

## IN-SERVICE TRAINING OF STAFF

(Dr. A. R. Buchan)

Every encouragement is given to all members of staff to keep abreast of modern developments and new policy in the Health and Welfare Services. Staff training continued within the Department throughout the year, the emphasis being on Mental Health. Several films were shown and Dr. M. D. Cashman gave a series of talks on Psychiatric Medicine and the implications of recent legislation.

Other topics covered were Immunisation when a film loaned by Burroughs Wellcome was shown; Family Planning, when three films introduced by the London Federation for Marriage Education were seen and a session on the use of paper disposable equipment. We are indebted to the Milk Marketing Board for a lecture/demonstration on the nutritional aspects of their products.

### Courses.

The Corporation appreciate the necessity of having highly trained and interested staff and consequently provide opportunities to attend refresher courses where appropriate. Members of staff attended a number of meetings, courses and conferences on various subjects.

### Staff Meetings.

Communication within a Health Department is always a problem in view of the varied functions and wide range of staff. To assist the free flow of information, regular monthly meetings of the medical and nursing staff continued throughout the year. In addition, professional staff are encouraged to attend society meetings of the appropriate disciplines.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

At the end of 1964, there was one full-time home help working 42 hours weekly and 205 part-time working on average 26 hours weekly. During the year, 47 home helps resigned either for health or domestic reasons and 44 were engaged, of whom 12 had previous service in the Department. There was no difficulty in obtaining

staff and a waiting list of suitably recommended applicants was maintained. They could be engaged promptly in cases of emergency.

Certain Home Helps from each area telephoned the office daily and in this way it was possible to give other home helps working in the same area further instructions in an emergency so that cases who were normally receiving daily attention were not neglected.

During the year, the Supervisor and her staff paid 6,360 domiciliary visits in connection with assessment and allocation, compared with 5,268 in 1963.

The following table gives the total number of cases who have received home help during the year, with hours worked. Figures for previous years are included for comparison:—

|                                     | 1964    | 1963    | 1962    | 1961    |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of households attended ..... | 1,213   | 1,288   | 1,225   | 1,169   |
| Number of hours worked .....        | 242,166 | 228,129 | 217,154 | 214,919 |

Of the weekly case load, almost 200 received daily attendance of between 12 and 24 hours weekly, including Sundays and Holidays. There was an increase of 14,037 hours worked during 1964, which was accounted for mainly by increased hours worked on daily cases. There were 374 applications for the service and 257 of these were implemented. The 117 unsuccessful applicants either had relatives living nearby or considered that the charge was too high. Many of this latter group were helped to make private arrangements for domestic work.

The new cases in 1964 were referred to the home help service as follows:—

|                                      | 1963       | 1964       |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Direct application .....             | 169        | 125        |
| Health and Welfare Departments ..... | 96         | 120        |
| General Practitioners .....          | 90         | 77         |
| District Nurses .....                | 5          | 9          |
| General Hospital .....               | 33         | 35         |
| Others .....                         | 1          | 8          |
|                                      | <u>394</u> | <u>374</u> |

The following table shows the type of case assisted by home helps :—

|                    | 1963        | 1964        |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Aged .....         | 1,211       | 1,125       |
| Maternity .....    | 27          | 23          |
| Tuberculosis ..... | 8           | 8           |
| Others .....       | 42          | 57          |
|                    | <hr/> 1,288 | <hr/> 1,213 |

### Neglected Cases.

During the year four cases with considerable accumulations of dirt, etc., received help. Home conditions were such as to require special cleansing efforts to make them habitable and this was done by two home helps at a time. An additional payment of up to 10/0d. per week was made to home helps engaged in this work.

### Maternity Cases.

During 1964, only 38 applications were received by the Department and of these, 23 were given home help assistance.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Senior Mental Welfare Officer, Mr. W. Scott, reports as follows:

This was a most important year for the Community Care Service as it saw the completion of the first full year of co-operation between the hospital services and the Mental Welfare Officers, made possible by the recent appointment of Dr. M. D. Cashman as the first permanent Consultant Psychiatrist with sole responsibility for the South Shields hospital group. The result has been most satisfactory and has proved to be of immense benefit to patients, general practitioners, the hospital service, and not least, to the Mental Welfare Officers.

The Mental Welfare Officers continued to serve the Psychiatric Out Patient clinics held at the General Hospital and as one of these clinics is held by Dr. A. Gillis, Consultant Psychiatrist, of Cherry Knowle Hospital, relationships here were greatly improved and strengthened. The natural result of this close co-operation between psychiatrists and officers resulted in an increase in the number of patients referred for care and a corresponding increase in the social work carried out by the Mental Welfare Officers. To cope with the increase, an additional officer was appointed in July. The number of patients under care at the end of the year was 374 an increase of 71 over the figure of 303 for 1963.

It is hoped that 1965 will see the first Mental Welfare Officer seconded to the two year full time Training Course to qualify for the National Certificate in Social Work as recommended in the Younghusband Report.

It had been anticipated that our first Hostel for the mentally ill would be ready to take residents in 1964/65 but owing to unforeseen delays in the acquisition of the property concerned, it is not likely to be ready for occupation before 1966.

## **Staff.**

At the end of the year the staff consisted of a Senior Mental Welfare Officer, four Mental Welfare Officers and a clerk, accommodated in Aston Street (near the Health Department). At the Training Centres, there were two Supervisors, seven Assistant Supervisors and two Trainee Supervisors.

## **Care and After Care.**

Table M.1. page 71 gives details by age and category of the 261 referrals to the Mental Welfare Service during the year. The Mental Welfare Officers made 6,098 social and after care visits, conducted 312 office interviews, made 75 psychiatric outpatient and domiciliary appointments as well as arranging the admission of 130 patients to hospitals (Table M.4 page 72). They also arranged the admission of 17 patients to temporary care, in the majority of cases in order that their relatives might take a holiday.

TABLE M1.

## MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959.

## NUMBER OF PATIENTS REFERRED TO THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY DURING YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

| Referred by                                                       | Mentally ill |     |             |     | Psychopathic |     |             |     | Subnormal    |      |             |      | Severely Subnormal |      |             |      | Total Subnormal and Severely Subnormal |      |             |      | Grand Total of Cols. (1) — (16) |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----|-------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------|-----|--------------|------|-------------|------|--------------------|------|-------------|------|----------------------------------------|------|-------------|------|---------------------------------|
|                                                                   | Under age 16 |     | 16 and over |     | Under age 16 |     | 16 and over |     | Under age 16 |      | 16 and over |      | Under age 16       |      | 16 and over |      | Under age 16                           |      | 16 and over |      |                                 |
|                                                                   | M            | F   | M           | F   | M            | F   | M           | F   | M            | F    | M           | F    | M                  | F    | M           | F    | M                                      | F    | M           | F    |                                 |
|                                                                   | (1)          | (2) | (3)         | (4) | (5)          | (6) | (7)         | (8) | (9)          | (10) | (11)        | (12) | (13)               | (14) | (15)        | (16) | (17)                                   | (18) | (19)        | (20) |                                 |
| (a) General practitioners .                                       | ...          | ... | 21          | 27  | ...          | ... | ...         | ... | ...          | ...  | ...         | ...  | 1                  | ...  | ...         | ...  | 1                                      | ...  | ...         | ...  | 49                              |
| (b) Hospitals, on discharge from in-patient treatment .....       | ...          | ... | 42          | 37  | ...          | ... | 1           | ... | 5            | ...  | 2           | 3    | 1                  | 1    | ...         | ...  | 7                                      | 5    | ...         | ...  | 92                              |
| (c) Hospitals, after or during out-patient or day treatment ..... | ...          | ... | 2           | 6   | ...          | ... | ...         | ... | ...          | ...  | ...         | ...  | 2                  | ...  | ...         | ...  | 2                                      | ...  | ...         | ...  | 10                              |
| (d) Local Education Authorities                                   | ...          | ... | ...         | ... | ...          | ... | ...         | ... | 2            | ...  | 1           | 1    | 3                  | 3    | ...         | ...  | 8                                      | 2    | ...         | ...  | 10                              |
| (e) Police and Courts .....                                       | ...          | ... | 9           | 11  | ...          | ... | ...         | ... | ...          | ...  | ...         | ...  | ...                | ...  | ...         | ...  | ...                                    | ...  | ...         | ...  | 20                              |
| (f) Other sources.....                                            | ...          | ... | 28          | 34  | ...          | ... | ...         | ... | ...          | ...  | 9           | 5    | ...                | 2    | 2           | ...  | 2                                      | 16   | ...         | ...  | 80                              |
| (g) Total .....                                                   | ...          | ... | 102         | 115 | ...          | ... | 1           | ... | 7            | ...  | 12          | 9    | 7                  | 6    | 2           | ...  | 20                                     | 23   | ...         | ...  | 261                             |

TABLE M.2.  
APPOINTMENTS MADE WITH CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRIST  
(a) Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic.

|              |     |     | Under 16 |     | Over 16 |   | Total |
|--------------|-----|-----|----------|-----|---------|---|-------|
|              |     |     | M        | F   | M       | F |       |
| Subnormal    | ... | ... | 20       | 11  | 4       | 4 | 39    |
| Mentally Ill | ... | ... | ...      | ... | 3       | 7 | 10    |
|              |     |     | 20       |     | 7       |   | 49    |

(b) Psychiatric Domiciliary Appointments.

|              |     |     | Under 16 |     | Over 16 |     | Total |
|--------------|-----|-----|----------|-----|---------|-----|-------|
|              |     |     | M        | F   | M       | F   |       |
| Subnormal    | ... | ... | ...      | ... | ...     | ... | ...   |
| Mentally Ill | ... | ... | ...      | ... | 16      | 10  | 26    |
|              |     |     | ...      |     | 16      |     | 26    |

TABLE M3.  
PATIENTS UNDER DOMICILIARY CARE BY THE MENTAL WELFARE STAFF  
on 31st December, 1964.

| MENTALLY ILL |         | SUBNORMAL |         | SEVERELY SUBNORMAL |         | TOTALS   |         | GRAND TOTAL |
|--------------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------|---------|----------|---------|-------------|
| Under 16     | Over 16 | Under 16  | Over 16 | Under 16           | Over 16 | Under 16 | Over 16 |             |
| M. F.        | M. F.   | M. F.     | M. F.   | M. F.              | M. F.   | M. F.    | M. F.   |             |
| — —          | 82 96   | 2 3       | 43 36   | 35 24              | 32 21   | 37 27    | 157 153 | 374         |

The total of 374 patients represents an increase of 71 over the corresponding figure for 1963.

ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL

Table M.4. gives details of hospital admissions arranged by the Mental Welfare Officers for all categories of mental disorder.

TABLE M.4

|                            | General Hospital South Shields |    | Cherry Knowle Hospital Ryhope |    | Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital |   | Other Hospitals |   | Total |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|----|------------------------------|---|-----------------|---|-------|
|                            | M                              | F  | M                             | F  | M                            | F | M               | F |       |
| Admissions:                |                                |    |                               |    |                              |   |                 |   |       |
| Informal .....             | 24                             | 28 | 11                            | 16 | 4                            | 3 | 1               | — | 87    |
| Section 29 (Emergency)     | 6                              | 5  | —                             | 4  | —                            | — | —               | — | 15    |
| Section 25 (Observation)   | 13                             | 15 | 2                             | 11 | —                            | — | —               | 1 | 42    |
| Section 26 (Treatment) ... | —                              | —  | 5                             | —  | —                            | — | —               | — | 5     |

TABLE M.5  
ATTEMPTED SUICIDES FOR THE YEAR 1964 BY AGE, SEX AND NATURE OF ATTEMPT.

| Age in Years      | Overdose of Tablets |    | Hanging |    | Poisons (Liquid) |    | Poisons (Coal Gas) |    | Cut Wrists |    | Drowning |    | Total |    |
|-------------------|---------------------|----|---------|----|------------------|----|--------------------|----|------------|----|----------|----|-------|----|
|                   | M.                  | F. | M.      | F. | M.               | F. | M.                 | F. | M.         | F. | M.       | F. | M.    | F. |
| 0-12.....         | —                   | —  | —       | —  | —                | —  | —                  | —  | —          | —  | —        | —  | —     | —  |
| 13-19.....        | 2                   | 6  | —       | —  | —                | —  | —                  | —  | —          | —  | —        | —  | 2     | 6  |
| 20-29.....        | 5                   | 6  | —       | —  | —                | —  | —                  | 1  | —          | —  | —        | —  | 6     | 7  |
| 30-39.....        | 1                   | 5  | 1       | —  | 1                | —  | 2                  | —  | 2          | —  | —        | —  | 7     | 5  |
| 40-49.....        | 2                   | 3  | —       | —  | —                | —  | 1                  | —  | 1          | —  | 1        | —  | 5     | 3  |
| 50-59.....        | 1                   | 2  | 1       | —  | —                | —  | —                  | —  | —          | —  | 1        | 1  | 3     | 3  |
| 60 and over ..... | 1                   | 2  | —       | —  | —                | —  | 1                  | —  | —          | —  | —        | —  | 2     | 2  |
|                   | 12                  | 24 | 2       | —  | 1                | —  | 4                  | 1  | 4          | —  | 2        | 1  | 25    | 26 |

The total of 51 compares with the figure of 45 for 1963.

## **Attempted Suicide.**

Table M.5. (page 73) records persons brought to the notice of the Mental Welfare Officers as having attempted suicide. As in 1963, the commonest method adopted was the taking of tablets, particularly in the younger age group. The total of 51 compares with the figure of 45 for 1963.

## **Mental Subnormality.**

There were forty-two cases referred to the Department during the year, an increase of twelve over the number referred last year. Of these cases thirty-eight were placed under care and four were admitted to hospital.

Dr. George McCoull, Consultant Psychiatrist, Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, continued to hold a monthly clinic for the examination of subnormal patients and we are indebted to him for the following report :—

“This clinic has now been operating in South Shields for 16 years and continues to be a link between the hospital and the Authority on all matters connected with the retarded.

It is a joint clinic in as much as medical staff are provided by the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital while premises and clinic staff are provided by South Shields.

Sessions are held on a monthly basis and the average attendance is one new case and three old cases per session.

Essentially, a sorting out and preliminary diagnostic clinic, many patients are referred to Prudhoe Hall for further investigation and diagnosis.

As I am now in my final year at Prudhoe Hall and your clinic, I would like to thank Dr. Leitch and his staff, especially Mr. Scott the Senior Mental Welfare Officer, for their unfailing help and assistance and would like to draw the attention of the Authority to the need to maintain the close link which exists between South Shields and the Prudhoe Hospital and would strongly suggest that this should be maintained after my retirement by way of my successor.”

The number of subnormal patients in hospital at the end of the year was as follows :—

TABLE M6.

| Hospital.                             | Males.   |             | Females. |             | Total |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------|
|                                       | Under 16 | 16 and over | Under 16 | 16 and over |       |
| Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital .....    | 20       | 57          | 11       | 45          | 133   |
| General Hospital, South Shields ..... | 1        | 25          | —        | —           | 26    |
| Other Hospitals .....                 | 1        | 3           | —        | 6           | 10    |
| Total .....                           | 22       | 85          | 11       | 51          | 167   |

## Training Centres.

The number on the register at the end of the year was 98. As will be seen from Table M.7. there was a small waiting list at the end of the year for the Junior and Adult Female Centres. There were vacancies in the Male Centre.

## Adult Male Centre.

It has been a most satisfactory year for the Adult Male Centre. The more positive approach to training adopted in 1963 is now beginning to show results and every credit is due to the Supervisor and his staff for the way in which they responded and adapted themselves to the change.

TABLE M7—TRAINING CENTRES, 10 OAKLEIGH GARDENS, CLEADON VILLAGE.

|                                 | SUBNORMAL |         | SEVERELY SUBNORMAL |         | TOTALS   |         | Grand Total |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|--------------------|---------|----------|---------|-------------|
|                                 | Under 16  | Over 16 | Under 16           | Over 16 | Under 16 | Over 16 |             |
|                                 | M F       | M F     | M F                | M F     | M F      | M F     |             |
| Attending Training Centre ..... | 2 1       | 13 5    | *28 *19            | 19 11   | 30 20    | 32 16   | 98          |
| Awaiting entry thereto .....    | ... ..    | ... ..  | 3 1                | ... 1   | 3 1      | ... 1   | 5           |

\*Includes one child from Durham County.

Of the 32 adult males attending the centre, 21 coming from all parts of the town, regularly travel unaided to and from the centre. The weekly swimming session held in the Public Baths is attended by 24 men, nine of whom can now swim.

Teams of men were formed during the year to produce brick ties and cement paving stones. By the end of the year they had produced 7,000 ties all of which were sold and 42 paving stones, 36 of which were sold.

The gardening programme proved highly successful and once again an excellent crop of tomatoes and vegetables was produced.

It is the Council's policy to encourage all staff to obtain qualifications and in September, one Assistant Supervisor from the Adult Male Centre began a course in Birmingham for the Diploma for Teachers of the Mentally Handicapped. An additional Trainee Supervisor was appointed in October.

### **Adult Female Centre.**

This group has remained as a combined unit with the Junior Centre and a most satisfactory level of training was maintained. The main emphasis remained on handicraft instruction but useful instruction in domestic work continued, helped by the purchase during the year of a new washing machine.

Integration of the adult male and female groups was commenced towards the end of the year with occasional joint working sessions and a regular weekly social training session. Eventually it is planned to integrate the two adult groups completely.

### **Junior Centre.**

Throughout the year there were 50 children on the register and as this is the maximum number possible in the existing building, there is unfortunately, a waiting list for admission to the Centre. Attendance levels were extremely high and with the help of an able and enthusiastic staff, a high level of training has been maintained. Students from the National Association for Mental Health Diploma Course continued to attend the Centre for periods of practical training while groups of student nurses and nursery nurses made visits. Another visitor was the Mayor of Port of Spain, Trinidad.

## **Child Guidance Clinic.**

The Child Guidance Clinic continued its valuable work during the year under the supervision of Dr. R. N. Stansfield. A full account is given in the Annual Report of the Principal School Medical Officer.



## **Part III**

# **Infectious Disease**

---

**Notifications and Deaths.**

**Epidemiology.**

**Notes on Certain Infectious Diseases.**

**Hospital Admissions.**

**Laboratory Examinations.**

**Tuberculosis.**

**Venereal Disease.**

## NOTIFICATION AND INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The appraisal of the health of the community depends, among other things, upon the collection of certain essential statistics. One of the sources of statistical information is the notification of infectious disease and medical practitioners have been required to notify certain cases of infectious diseases to the Medical Officer of Health since 1899. Since that time numerous Acts and Regulations direct that certain communicable diseases are compulsorily notifiable.

The incidence of infectious disease during 1964 was 1,427 confirmed cases notified during the year compared with 2,529 in 1963.

*Table A.* gives the confirmed incidence of notifiable disease and deaths registered, classified according to age.

*Table B.* indicates the seasonal prevalence.

*Table C.* compares the notifications over the past ten years.

It will be seen from these following tables that the total confirmed incidence of notifiable disease varies mainly with the biennial measles epidemic.

**Table A. Confirmed Cases and Registered Deaths of Notifiable Infectious Disease, 1964.**

| Notifiable Disease            | AGE GROUPS |         |         |         |        |         |        |         |        |         |        |         |        |         |        |         |        |         |             |         |
|-------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------------|---------|
|                               | All Ages   |         | Under 1 |         | 1—2    |         | 3—4    |         | 5—9    |         | 10—14  |         | 15—24  |         | 25—44  |         | 45—64  |         | 65 and Over |         |
|                               | Cases.     | Deaths. | Cases.  | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases. | Deaths. | Cases.      | Deaths. |
| Scarlet Fever .....           | 234        | ..      | 2       | ..      | 21     | ..      | 59     | ..      | 143    | ..      | 7      | ..      | 2      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Whooping Cough .....          | 54         | ..      | 11      | ..      | 18     | ..      | 13     | ..      | 10     | ..      | 1      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Acute Poliomyelitis .....     | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Measles .....                 | 836        | ..      | 46      | ..      | 243    | ..      | 251    | ..      | 285    | ..      | 9      | ..      | 2      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Diphtheria .....              | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Pneumonia:                    | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Influenzal .....              | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Primary .....                 | 85         | 45      | 1       | 2       | 2      | ..      | ..     | ..      | 5      | ..      | 1      | ..      | 1      | ..      | 3      | 7       | 31     | 7       | 37          | 38      |
| Dysentery .....               | 107        | ..      | 8       | ..      | 6      | ..      | 14     | ..      | 7      | ..      | 11     | ..      | 31     | ..      | 5      | ..      | 3      | 5       | 22          | ..      |
| Smallpox .....                | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Encephalitis .....            | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Typhoid Fever .....           | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Paratyphoid Fever .....       | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Erysipelas .....              | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Meningococcal Infection ..... | 4          | ..      | ..      | ..      | 2      | ..      | 1      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | 1      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Food Poisoning .....          | 20         | ..      | 2       | ..      | 4      | ..      | 1      | ..      | 1      | ..      | ..     | ..      | 2      | ..      | ..     | ..      | 2      | ..      | 3           | ..      |
| Puerperal pyrexia .....       | 1          | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | 1      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum .....   | 1          | ..      | 1       | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Malaria .....                 | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Tuberculosis:                 | ..         | ..      | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..          | ..      |
| Respiratory .....             | 80         | 8       | ..      | ..      | 2      | ..      | 2      | ..      | 11     | ..      | 4      | ..      | 5      | ..      | 27     | 2       | 21     | 2       | 8           | 4       |
| Non-respiratory .....         | 5          | 1       | ..      | ..      | ..     | ..      | ..     | ..      | 1      | ..      | ..     | ..      | 1      | ..      | 2      | ..      | ..     | ..      | 1           | 1       |
| TOTAL .....                   | 1427       | 54      | 71      | 2       | 298    | ..      | 341    | ..      | 463    | ..      | 33     | ..      | 46     | ..      | 47     | 5       | 57     | 9       | 71          | 38      |

Table B. Seasonal Incidence of Notifications, 1964.

| Disease.                      | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | April | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever .....           | 33   | 26   | 42   | 15    | 25  | 21   | 16   | 7    | 10    | 12   | 14   | 13   | 234   |
| Whooping Cough .....          | 5    | 7    | 6    | 1     | 5   | 2    | 2    | 4    | 8     | 8    | 4    | 2    | 54    |
| Acute Poliomyelitis .....     | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Measles .....                 | 17   | 46   | 42   | 15    | 70  | 119  | 179  | 109  | 44    | 33   | 52   | 110  | 836   |
| Diphtheria .....              | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Pneumonia:                    |      |      |      |       |     |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |       |
| influenzal .....              | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| primary .....                 | 5    | 7    | 6    | 5     | 9   | 6    | 1    | 7    | 7     | 13   | 15   | 4    | 85    |
| Dysentery .....               | 12   | 9    | 19   | 14    | 10  | 12   | 15   | 1    | 1     | 4    | 8    | 2    | 107   |
| Smallpox .....                | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Acute encephalitis .....      | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Typhoid Fever .....           | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Paratyphoid fever .....       | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Erysipelas .....              | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Meningococcal infection ..... | 1    | ...  | ...  | 2     | ... | ...  | ...  | 1    | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | 4     |
| Food poisoning .....          | ...  | 5    | ...  | 2     | ... | 1    | ...  | 2    | 9     | ...  | 1    | ...  | 20    |
| Puerpal pyrexia .....         | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | 1    | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | 1     |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum .....   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | 1    | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | 1     |
| Malaria .....                 | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ... | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...   |
| Tuberculosis:                 |      |      |      |       |     |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |       |
| respiratory .....             | 7    | 6    | 6    | 5     | 8   | 12   | 10   | 6    | 7     | 10   | 1    | 2    | 80    |
| non-respiratory .....         | ...  | ...  | 1    | ...   | 1   | 1    | 1    | 1    | ...   | ...  | ...  | ...  | 5     |
| TOTAL .....                   | 80   | 106  | 122  | 59    | 128 | 175  | 225  | 138  | 86    | 80   | 95   | 133  | 1427  |

Table C. Comparative Notifications for the past ten years.

| Disease                                            | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 |
|----------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever .....                                | 38   | 119  | 86   | 70   | 114  | 89   | 31   | 15   | 69   | 234  |
| Whooping Cough .....                               | 414  | 130  | 108  | 161  | 75   | 74   | 65   | 66   | 84   | 54   |
| Acute poliomyelitis .....                          | 1    | 5    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 2    | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Acute polioencephalitis .....                      | ...  | 1    | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Measles .....                                      | 867  | 379  | 3218 | 36   | 2697 | 403  | 2074 | 494  | 2050 | 836  |
| Diphtheria .....                                   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Pneumonia: Influenzal .....                        | 4    | 3    | 36   | 5    | 30   | 10   | 8    | 9    | 26   | ...  |
| Primary .....                                      | 161  | 167  | 137  | 102  | 124  | 87   | 104  | 93   | 119  | 85   |
| Dysentery .....                                    | 182  | 152  | 187  | 81   | 77   | 31   | 4    | 30   | 31   | 107  |
| Smallpox .....                                     | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Encephalitis (infective and post infectious) ..... | 1    | 2    | ...  | 1    | 3    | 2    | 4    | 1    | ...  | ...  |
| Typhoid Fever .....                                | 2    | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | 24   | ...  |
| Paratyphoid fever .....                            | ...  | 2    | 2    | ...  | ...  | ...  | 4    | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Erysipelas .....                                   | 22   | 13   | 15   | 15   | 9    | 11   | 2    | 2    | 3    | ...  |
| Meningococcal infection .....                      | 2    | 4    | 3    | 14   | 3    | 7    | 10   | 3    | 1    | 4    |
| Food poisoning .....                               | 27   | 26   | 12   | 14   | 12   | 1    | 36   | 4    | 5    | 20   |
| Puerperal pyrexia .....                            | 40   | 47   | 14   | 20   | 30   | 19   | 1    | 1    | 3    | 1    |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum .....                        | 1    | 2    | 4    | 7    | 1    | ...  | 1    | 2    | ...  | 1    |
| Malaria .....                                      | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | 1    | 1    | ...  | ...  |
| Pemphigus neonatorum .....                         | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Tuberculosis: respiratory .....                    | 178  | 150  | 158  | 147  | 132  | 100  | 78   | 93   | 103  | 80   |
| non-respiratory .....                              | 15   | 11   | 10   | 8    | 12   | 15   | 9    | 11   | 9    | 5    |
| Total combined incidence .....                     | 1955 | 1213 | 3992 | 682  | 3350 | 849  | 2434 | 829  | 2529 | 1427 |

## *Notes on Certain Infectious Diseases.*

### **Scarlet Fever.**

Confirmed notifications numbered 234 compared with 69 cases in 1963. Most of the cases occurred during the first half of the year when there was an increased prevalence of the disease. All the cases were mild and there were no deaths.

### **Whooping Cough.**

The number of accepted cases was 54, a decrease from the 84 for 1963. As in previous years, the number of children infected who were previously immunised was very small.

| Age               | Cases of<br>Whooping Cough | Cases previously<br>Immunised | Deaths |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Under 1 .....     | 11                         | —                             | —      |
| 1—2.....          | 18                         | 1                             | —      |
| 3—4.....          | 13                         | 1                             | —      |
| 5—9.....          | 10                         | 1                             | —      |
| 10—14.....        | 1                          | —                             | —      |
| 15 and over ..... | 1                          | —                             | —      |
| Total .....       | 54                         | 3                             | —      |

### **Measles.**

The number of accepted cases was 836, compared with 2,050 in 1963. Most of the cases occurred in the last six months of the year. Some 64% of the cases were in children under school age. No deaths were attributed to this disease.

### **Smallpox.**

No case of smallpox has been notified in the town since 1932. In 1964 one of the panel of smallpox consultants was called in to see a child with a variola type rash and the diagnosis of chicken-pox was confirmed.

## **Enteric Fever.**

No case of typhoid fever occurred during the year, although several people who had been in the Aberdeen area during the outbreak there came under suspicion.

All the cases of typhoid in the outbreak in South Shields in 1963 were followed up. Bacteriological and serological tests were all negative.

## **Poliomyelitis.**

For the third successive year, there were no confirmed cases in the town, although one child aged almost two years died in July from an acute infective illness with bulbar paralysis. The casual virus was not isolated but as a precaution, oral poliomyelitis vaccine was given to everyone living in the immediate locality of this suspected case by a team of health visitors and school nurses.

## **Outbreak of Conjunctivitis in Children.**

An outbreak of conjunctivitis and blurred vision was reported in a school cricket team during June. Investigations revealed that other children in the same primary school were also affected. No causal organism was discovered and after intensive epidemiological enquiries, the cause was thought to be due to the unloading of pitch-blende from a ship in the docks near to the school playing yard. The symptoms cleared up without treatment within 24 hours.

## **Diphtheria.**

No case of diphtheria was notified for the thirteenth successive year.

## **Meningococcal Infection.**

Four cases were notified during the year, a boy of nine months, a girl of 18 months, a boy of four years and a girl of 12 years. A medical officer visited the home in each instance to take an epidemiological history, throat swabs of family contacts and see that prophylactic treatment was given where necessary. All made uneventful recoveries.

## **Leprosy.**

This is not a disease notifiable to the Local Health Authority but one case was reported to the Department by courtesy of the Consultant attending at the time of notification to the Ministry of Health. The patient, a Pakistani of 60 years, was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Unit at Sheriff Hill Hospital and later transferred to a hospital in Essex for treatment.

## **Chrome Ulceration.**

One case came to the attention of the Department in March and was notified to the Factory Inspector.

## **Food Poisoning.**

This is a generic term for illness characterised by gastro-enteritis of sudden onset, due to intoxication or infection acquired through food. Numerous cases never seek the attention of a doctor and of those that do and are notified, many cannot be accepted because of lack of bacteriological confirmation. In 1964, of the 42 suspected cases, only 20 were subsequently confirmed. In addition, there were also three suspected outbreaks of food poisoning as follows:—

### **Outbreak of Food Poisoning Due to Salm. Typhimurium.**

In September, a severely ill, elderly man was admitted to hospital. He died shortly after admission and a post mortem revealed the cause of death as bronchopneumonia and myocarditis. Salm. typhimurium was isolated from the intestine. The organism was subsequently found to be phage type 12A. Within a period of six weeks, eleven cases from six other families were notified to the Department. All lived in a circumscribed area and used the same shopping centre but the actual source of infection remained undiscovered.

### **Food Poisoning Alarm Following a School Meal.**

Complaints were received from the School Meals Service that a peculiar smell was associated with the dinner prepared for that day. Most of the meals were withdrawn and the cause of the unpleasant smell was traced to tinned diced vegetables. Organisms

of the Clostridia group were isolated from the tins and similar organisms were found in another batch. Two children were reported ill after eating some of the meal and several others complained of nausea, though it is by no means certain that the illness was caused by the organisms isolated from the food.

### Laburnum Poisoning in Children.

Seven children were admitted to hospital following ingestion of laburnum pods. Although not strictly food poisoning, the children were attracted to the plant and ate the seeds as a form of food. Steps were taken to prevent the recurrence of accidental poisoning by special supervision within the Local Authority parks.

### Dysentery.

Three hundred and sixty-five cases were reported and investigated. One hundred and seven of these were confirmed bacteriologically, of whom seven were treated in hospital. There were no deaths.

### Infective Hepatitis.

Although notification is on an informal basis, only three cases were reported to the Health Department, all of school age. None required admission to hospital.

### Hospital Treatment.

During 1964, 20 cases of notifiable infectious disease belonging to South Shields were treated in hospitals, as under:—

|                               | Ingham<br>Infirmary | South Shields<br>General<br>Hospital | Havelock<br>Hospital,<br>Sunderland | Walkergate<br>Hospital<br>Newcastle | Sheriff Hill<br>Hospital | Total |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Pneumonia .....               | ..                  | 2                                    | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | 2     |
| Dysentery .....               | ..                  | 6                                    | ..                                  | ..                                  | 1                        | 7     |
| Meningococcal Infection ..... | ..                  | 4                                    | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | 4     |
| Food Poisoning .....          | ..                  | 6                                    | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | 6     |
| Encephalitis .....            | ..                  | ..                                   | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | ..    |
| Enteric Fever .....           | ..                  | ..                                   | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | ..    |
| Malaria .....                 | ..                  | ..                                   | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | ..    |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....   | 1                   | ..                                   | ..                                  | ..                                  | ..                       | 1     |
|                               | 1                   | 18                                   | ..                                  | ..                                  | 1                        | 20    |

Laboratory Examinations.

The following is a list of pathological examinations carried out in various laboratories for the Public Health Department :—

| Routine:                         | P.H.<br>Laboratory<br>Newcastle | P.H.<br>Laboratory<br>Sunderland | Area<br>Laboratory<br>S. S.<br>General<br>Hospital | Total |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Ear, nose and throat swabs ..... | 18                              | —                                | 12                                                 | 30    |
| Faeces .....                     | 1,989                           | —                                | —                                                  | 1,989 |
| Urine .....                      | 41                              | —                                | —                                                  | 41    |
| Blood Widal .....                | 27                              | —                                | —                                                  | 27    |
| Cultures .....                   | 11                              | —                                | —                                                  | 11    |
| Vomit .....                      | 1                               | —                                | —                                                  | 1     |

TUBERCULOSIS

The Consultant Chest Physician for South Shields, Dr. P. M. Rooze, reports as follows :—

“The tuberculosis problem in South Shields, although still serious, as it is so much above the national average, is showing a definite tendency towards improvement. The scheme for skin testing and checking contacts of the five year olds is still operative and, I think, should be continued. I am only sorry that the scheme cannot at the present moment be extended to the 11 year olds. One innovation in this past year, which has proved of some value, is that nearly all apprentices are now being X-rayed before starting work.”

Incidence of Tuberculosis :

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Cases notified during 1963 .....    | 85 |
| Non-notified fatal cases .....      | —  |
| Notified posthumously .....         | —  |
| Cases re-admitted to register ..... | 6  |
| Inward Transfers .....              | 6  |
|                                     | 97 |

## Cases Removed from Register :

|                                             |       |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| Deaths from tuberculosis or other cause ... | 19    |
| Left the Town .....                         | 5     |
| Two years untraced .....                    | 9     |
| Three years free (non-respiratory) .....    | 2     |
| Five years free (respiratory) .....         | 185   |
| Wrong diagnoses or notifications withdrawn  | 2     |
|                                             | ----- |
|                                             | 222   |
|                                             | ----- |

Number of cases on register at end of 1964      359

## Age and Sex of Cases on Notification Register as at 31st December, 1964.

| Age Groups   | MALES       |                 | FEMALES     |                 | Total |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------|
|              | Respiratory | Non-respiratory | Respiratory | Non-respiratory |       |
| 0- 4 years   | 4           | ...             | 5           | ...             | 9     |
| 5- 9 years   | 12          | —               | 18          | ...             | 30    |
| 10-14 years  | 7           | ...             | 6           | 1               | 14    |
| 15-19 years  | 2           | 2               | 4           | 2               | 10    |
| 20-24 years  | 10          | ...             | 12          | 1               | 23    |
| 25-29 years  | 13          | —               | 15          | 6               | 34    |
| 30-34 years  | 14          | 3               | 14          | 1               | 32    |
| 35-39 years  | 12          | 2               | 14          | 4               | 32    |
| 40-44 years  | 11          | 3               | 6           | ...             | 20    |
| 45-49 years  | 21          | 1               | 12          | 2               | 36    |
| 50-54 years  | 19          | 1               | 9           | ...             | 29    |
| 55-59 years  | 23          | ...             | 7           | ...             | 30    |
| 60-64 years  | 20          | ...             | 2           | ...             | 22    |
| 65-69 years  | 16          | 1               | 1           | ...             | 18    |
| 70-74 years  | 9           | ...             | 6           | ...             | 15    |
| 75-79 years  | 3           | ...             | 1           | ...             | 4     |
| 80-84 years  | 1           | ...             | ...         | ...             | 1     |
| Totals ..... | 197         | 13              | 132         | 17              | 359   |

## Notifications.

During 1964 there were 85 cases notified as follows:—

|                       | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Respiratory .....     | 50           | 30             | 80           |
| Non-respiratory ..... | —            | 5              | 5            |

| Age Group          | Respiratory |        | Non-respiratory |        |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
|                    | Male        | Female | Male            | Female |
| Under 1 year ..... | ...         | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 1 year .....       | ...         | 1      | ...             | ...    |
| 2— 4 years .....   | 3           | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 5— 9 years .....   | 5           | 6      | ...             | 1      |
| 10—14 years .....  | 3           | 1      | ...             | ...    |
| 15—19 years .....  | 1           | 2      | ...             | 1      |
| 20—24 years .....  | 2           | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 25—34 years .....  | 9           | 6      | —               | 1      |
| 35—44 years .....  | 7           | 5      | —               | 1      |
| 45—54 years .....  | 10          | 6      | ...             | ...    |
| 55—64 years .....  | 5           | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| 65—74 years .....  | 3           | 3      | —               | 1      |
| 75+ years .....    | 2           | ...    | ...             | ...    |
| Totals .....       | 50          | 30     | —               | 5      |

The notification rate was 0·78 per 1,000 of the population—0·74 respiratory and 0·04 non-respiratory.

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified or ascertained during each of the past ten years is as follows:—

|                         | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Notified:—              |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Respiratory .....       | 178  | 148  | 158  | 147  | 132  | 100  | 78   | 95   | 103  | 80   |
| Non-respiratory.....    | 15   | 10   | 10   | 8    | 12   | 15   | 9    | 11   | 9    | 5    |
| Not Notified:—          |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Respiratory .....       | 2    | 2    | 3    | 1    | 2    | ...  | ...  | 4    | 3    | ...  |
| Non-respiratory.....    | ...  | 1    | ...  | ...  | 3    | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  |
| Total .....             | 195  | 161  | 171  | 156  | 149  | 115  | 87   | 110  | 115  | 85   |
| Notification Rate ..... | 1·81 | 1·49 | 1·58 | 1·44 | 1·37 | 1·06 | 0·79 | 0·97 | 1·02 | 0·78 |

A comparison of the notification rates for the neighbouring authorities is as follows:—

|                            | <i>Respiratory</i> | <i>Non-Respiratory</i> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| South Shields .....        | 0.74               | 0.04                   |
| Gateshead C.B. ....        | 0.825              | 0.166                  |
| Sunderland .....           | 0.42               | 0.09                   |
| Newcastle upon Tyne .....  | 0.564              | 0.092                  |
| Tynemouth C.B. ....        | 0.39               | 0.11                   |
| Durham County .....        | 0.33               | 0.07                   |
| Northumberland County..... | 0.37               | 0.04                   |

## Mortality :

Tuberculosis caused nine deaths during 1964, eight respiratory and one non-respiratory.

This represents a death rate of 0.08 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.03 for 1963.

The death rate for South Shields from tuberculosis during the past ten years was as follows:—

|                       | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Respiratory .....     | 0.20 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.09 | 0.15 | 0.02 | 0.07 |
| Non-respiratory ..... | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.10 | 0.03 | ...  | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |

The following table shows the death rates of neighbouring authorities, from all forms of tuberculosis:—

|                            | <i>Respiratory</i> | <i>Non-Respiratory</i> |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| England and Wales .....    | 0.046              | 0.006                  |
| South Shields .....        | 0.07               | 0.01                   |
| Gateshead C.B. ....        | 0.049              | 0.009                  |
| Sunderland C.B. ....       | 0.037              | 0.005                  |
| Newcastle upon Tyne .....  | 0.058              | 0.004                  |
| Tynemouth C.B. ....        | 0.03               | 0.00                   |
| Durham County .....        | 0.06               | 0.004                  |
| Northumberland County..... | 0.03               | 0.006                  |

## Routine Heaf Testing and B.C.G. Vaccination in School Children.

A full account of the tuberculin testing and B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts, school children and students is given in the Annual Report on the Health of School Children.

In all, 368 contacts, 2,132 school children, aged 11 years and over, and 14 students were vaccinated with B.C.G. Of the school children given Heaf tests, 332 (13.5%) were found to be tuberculin positive. All were referred for X-ray and four were found with abnormal conditions and kept under observation at the Chest Clinic.

## Mass Radiography.

During the year, arrangements for mass radiography in the town were changed. A semi-static unit was sited in the Health Department grounds on the first three days of each week, as from April, 1964. This has resulted in a considerable increase in the number of people attending for examination. The following table summarizes the work of the unit in 1964:—

| Groups Examined                           | Attendances<br>Total | Referred to<br>Chest Clinic<br>Total | No. of Cases<br>Notified as a<br>Result of<br>M.M.R.<br>Total |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Doctors Patients .....                    | 2,245                | 212                                  | 6                                                             |
| Contacts .....                            | 317                  | 16                                   | 3                                                             |
| Mantoux Positive<br>School Children ..... | 542                  | 14                                   | 3                                                             |
| Industry .....                            | 1,677                | 14                                   | 1                                                             |
| General Public.....                       | 3,770                | 94                                   | 6                                                             |

It will be seen that the proportion of cases referred to the Chest Clinic is highest in patients sent for X-ray by general practitioners.

## Rehousing on Medical Grounds.

The families of tuberculous patients whose home conditions are such as to interfere with the proper treatment and control of infection may be given priority rehousing. During 1964, five such

allocations were made. Many other families have been recommended for an extra allowance of points, which gives some measure of priority on the housing list.

## Venereal Diseases.

The number of new patients seen at the Stanhope Parade Clinic in 1964 was 409. This represents a considerable fall from the 1963 figure of 472. There were two new cases of contagious syphilis, compared with five in 1963. Both cases were in persons aged 25 years and over. There was also a fall in the number of cases of late syphilis, five being seen compared with twelve in 1963.

There was a sharp fall in new cases of gonorrhoea, 71 cases (48 male, 23 female) attending, compared with 108 in 1963. Of the new cases, five occurred in teenage boys but there were no cases in girls under the age of 20.

Of the 330 cases (269 male, 61 female) attending for other conditions, 192 required treatment and 138 re-assurance.

In the field of contact tracing, the combined social services of the Clinic and Health Department identified 14 cases of gonorrhoea (4 male, 10 female). Total attendances at the Clinic again showed a considerable fall from 1963 (2,615 compared with 2,948).

The following table shows in detail the cases dealt with at the South Shields centre for the first time during each of the past ten years.

|                        | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Syphilis .....         | 18   | 22   | 14   | 14   | 13   | 8    | 19   | 15   | 17   | 9    |
| Gonorrhoea .....       | 70   | 57   | 85   | 82   | 54   | 64   | 127  | 119  | 108  | 71   |
| Other Conditions ..... | 276  | 259  | 302  | 232  | 193  | 195  | 245  | 354  | 347  | 329  |
| Total .....            | 364  | 338  | 401  | 328  | 260  | 263  | 391  | 488  | 472  | 409  |

The following table shows the attendance at the South Shields centre during the past 10 years.

| Year      | Total | Male  | Female |
|-----------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1955..... | 4,370 | 1,948 | 2,422  |
| 1956..... | 4,484 | 2,198 | 2,286  |
| 1957..... | 4,209 | 2,389 | 1,820  |
| 1958..... | 3,288 | 1,788 | 1,500  |
| 1959..... | 2,713 | 1,313 | 1,400  |
| 1960..... | 2,323 | 1,331 | 992    |
| 1961..... | 2,458 | 1,561 | 897    |
| 1962..... | 3,175 | 2,081 | 1,094  |
| 1963..... | 2,948 | 2,024 | 924    |
| 1964..... | 2,615 | 1,849 | 766    |

Total cases treated at the South Shields centre during 1964 including cases who had continued treatment from 1963:—

|                    | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Syphilis .....     | 29   | 48     | 77    |
| Gonorrhoea .....   | 55   | 30     | 85    |
| Other Conditions . | 310  | 70     | 380   |

**South Shields Cases under Treatment at Other Centres.**

|                         | <i>Syphilis</i> | <i>Gonorrhoea</i> | <i>Other<br/>Conditions</i> | <i>Total<br/>Cases</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Newcastle upon Tyne ... | ...             | 2                 | 35                          | 37                     |
| North Shields .....     | ...             | 2                 | 1                           | 3                      |
| Sunderland .....        | 3               | 1                 | 10                          | 14                     |

## Part IV

# Environmental Hygiene

---

**Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.**

**Water Supply, etc.**

**Housing.**

**Food and Drugs Control.**

**Atmospheric Pollution.**

**Provisions of Factories Acts.**

**Rodent and Pest Control.**

The annual report of the Chief Public Health Inspector Mr. R. V. Robinson, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

## Water Supply.

An adequate and constant supply of chlorinated water is provided by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company and chemical and bacteriological reports show the water to be wholesome.

All the houses in the town have a piped water supply though a few remain, in scheduled clearance areas, which are served only by a stand-pipe in the yard.

### TYPICAL ANALYSIS OF THE WATER SUPPLY

#### Physical Characteristics

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Colour (Hazen) ..... | Less than 5°H |
| Turbidity .....      | Nil.          |
| pH.....              | 7.5           |

### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS (Expressed in Parts per Million)

|                                        |               |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| Dissolved oxygen 18°C .....            | 7.5           |
| Free CO <sub>2</sub> .....             | 10.6          |
| Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) .....  | 225.0         |
| Chlorides (Cl) .....                   | 73.4          |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....              | 0.128         |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen .....              | 0.056         |
| Nitrite as nitrogen .....              | faint trace   |
| Nitrate as nitrogen .....              | 3.2           |
| Oxygen adsorbed (3 hrs. at 37°C) ..... | 0.19          |
| Temporary hardness .....               | 225.0         |
| Permanent Hardness .....               | 124.8         |
| Total hardness .....                   | 349.8         |
| Total solids (dried at 180°C) .....    | 536.0         |
| Calcium (Ca) .....                     | 68.9          |
| Magnesium (Mg) .....                   | 43.0          |
| Iron (Fe) .....                        | 0.025         |
| Carbonate (CO <sub>3</sub> ) .....     | 135.0         |
| Sulphate (SO <sub>4</sub> ) .....      | 109.6         |
| Silica (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) .....       | 5.0           |
| Free chlorine .....                    | Less than 0.5 |

## FLUORIDE CONTENT

Until a few years ago the sources of the towns water supply were mainly deep wells, and the fluoride content was about 1·0 part per million. In more recent years water from other sources, with a lower fluoride content, has been added to the supply so that the figure is now somewhat lower. It may vary from time to time and in different parts of the distribution system as shown by the figures below; the average of these results is 0·205 p.p.m.

## RECENT ANALYSIS OF THE FLUORIDE CONTENT OF THE SUPPLY AT VARIOUS POINTS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Sea Hotel .....             | 0·24 p.p.m. |
| Hyperion Avenue .....       | 0·3 p.p.m.  |
| Mill Grove.....             | 0·12 p.p.m. |
| Water Company Offices ..... | 0·22 p.p.m. |
| Prince Edward Road .....    | 0·16 p.p.m. |
| Westoe Drive .....          | 0·16 p.p.m. |
| South Eldon Street .....    | 0·24 p.p.m. |

## BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLE RESULTS

|                                                        | No. of<br>Samples | Free from<br>Non-Faecal<br>Organisms | Free from<br>Faecal<br>Organisms |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Wells and other sources (before<br>chlorination) ..... | 1,303             | 99·1 %                               | 94·5 %                           |
| Reservoirs .....                                       | 473               | 99·8 %                               | 100 %                            |
| Consumers taps .....                                   | 875               | 100 %                                | 100 %                            |

In addition to the above samples taken by the Water Company a further 66 samples were taken by the Department from various consumers taps throughout the town. All proved to be satisfactory.

## Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The combined system of drainage is used in the town with soil and surface water together discharging directly into the River Tyne and the sea. In the seven or eight miles of the lower reaches of the river there is discharged the sewage and trade wastes from a population of nearly a million people almost all of it without any treatment whatsoever. The consequent heavy pollution of the river has been the subject of concern and criticism for many years.

In 1958 a Working Committee, comprised of representatives of 18 local authorities in the area, was set up to examine the present and projected means of disposal and to explore the possible ways of creating a modern system or systems which would reduce the pollution of the River Tyne. The drainage area with which the Committee was concerned covers 127 square miles or 8,385 acres and extends from the coastal towns of South Shields, Tynemouth and Whitley Bay to the up-river areas of Newburn, Ryton and Blaydon. A number of schemes have been considered; these included the possibility of discharge to the sea at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles offshore after preliminary screening and maceration and also the possibility of establishing sewage purification plant or plants at one or a number of points in the area and purifying all sewage to a greater or lesser degree before discharge.

After detailed investigations into the various schemes the Working Committee has now accepted in principle a proposal for sewage purification under which sewage from the whole area will be conveyed for treatment to one point at Howden on the north bank of the Tyne. The Borough Council has agreed in principle with the Working Committee's decision.

For South Shields and the other coastal towns one of the most important considerations must be the effect of the river pollution upon the beaches and bathing waters. With this in mind it would seem that the purification scheme proposals should be preferred by the coastal towns since the degree of purification can be adjusted as required to meet changing circumstances and to ensure satisfactory conditions at the beaches.

A necessary consequence of the adoption of the Working Committee's proposals would be a change-over from the present combined system of drainage to separate systems for foul and surface waters.

In the past year drainage defects necessitated 88 visits and inspections; repairs or renewals were supervised in nine instances and 55 tests were applied.

## **Swimming Baths.**

There is one public swimming bath in the Borough. It was first opened in 1906 and improved and re-equipped in 1960. Since that time a satisfactory water quality has been maintained; the chlorine residual, pH and alkalinity are checked regularly and samples of the water are taken frequently for bacteriological examination.

In addition to the public swimming bath there are now baths installed at three schools in the Borough; two of these have come into use for the first time this year. A number of others now under construction are expected to be operating in the near future. Although primarily intended for school use, these baths are sometimes used in the evenings by classes of adult learner swimmers. The same supervision is given to all the school baths as to the public baths and generally the water quality and cleanliness of the premises have been satisfactory. Some difficulty was experienced at one bath early in the year when the bacteriological state of the water was repeatedly unsatisfactory. An improvement was obtained in the latter half of the year and good water quality maintained.

Particular care was taken with one of the school baths opened in the year because it was of a type—plastic lined—with which some difficulties had been reported in another part of the country. In this instance however an excellent water quality has been maintained.

Seventy-five visits and inspections have been made to the swimming baths: samples of pool water taken numbered 146 of which 12 were bacteriologically unsatisfactory.

## **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

Five licences were granted during the year for premises and market stalls to be used for the sale of pet animals.

Seven visits were paid to these premises and two minor contraventions were remedied on being brought to the notice of the licence holders.

## **Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.**

One firm in the Borough has premises registered for the use of specified filling materials in bedding and upholstery. The premises have been visited and three samples of filling materials have been

taken; conditions were found to be satisfactory and the samples were reported to meet the hygiene standards imposed by the Rag Flock & Other Filling Materials Regulations.

### **Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.**

Twelve samples of fertilisers have been taken informally and two were reported unsatisfactory. In each case one or more of the constituents slightly exceeded the figure given in the statutory particulars by more than the permitted amount. As both the samples had been taken from retailers carrying insufficient stock to enable a proper representative formal sample to be taken, the matter was taken up with the manufacturing company and a caution issued.

Assurances have been received from the company on the questions of quality control in general and on the efforts being made to trace the batch from which the retailers were supplied.

### **Barbers and Hairdressers Premises.**

On 1st March 1964 the Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed byelaws made by the Council to secure hygienic conditions and practices in barbers and hairdressers establishments. There are 103 premises in the town in which the trade is carried on and it had been hoped that an intensive campaign of inspection and education could have been carried out immediately. Unfortunately, however, acute staff shortage and pressure of other work made this impossible and four visits only were made.

### **Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.**

There are 25 premises on the local authorities list of sellers of 'Part II' poisons. Five of these were newly entered on the list this year.

All the premises have been visited at least once and the total number of inspections was 33. Two notices were served regarding contraventions and the requirements were immediately complied with.

## **Burial Act, 1857.**

One exhumation was carried out during the year. This was of the body of a Netherlands serviceman and was carried out by the Netherlands War Graves Foundation. An inspector was present to ensure that the removal was effected with due care and decency and with proper regard to public health.

## **The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.**

Most of the provisions of this Act came into effect on 1st August 1964. They impose for the first time comprehensive standards for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed to work in office or shop premises and certain railway premises. Responsibility for the administration of the Act is divided between the Ministry of Labour and the Borough Council; the Ministry of Labour being responsible for railway premises and certain other classes including local authority offices whilst the remaining, and majority of offices and shops, are the responsibility of the Council.

The Act provided for the registration of all affected premises between 1st of May and 1st August 1964; by the end of the year 1,031 registrations had been received involving some 6,430 employees but it was estimated that some 500 or more premises had still to be registered.

Though all the Council's public health inspectors have been authorised under the Act, for the present, the task of carrying out primary inspections of registered premises is being allocated to two of them only. It is intended, however, that further inspections and re-inspections of food premises and certain other retail shops will normally be conducted by any inspector during the course of food hygiene or other routine visits to the premises.

In these first few months of operation 204 visits were made to registered premises and there were 48 visits to premises subsequently found either to be outside the scope of the Act or to come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry Inspectorate; 47 interviews were held with employers or other affected persons making enquiries and an outline and explanation of the Act was given in talks to meetings of two local associations of tradespeople. General inspections were made of 35 of the registered premises and contraventions

were found in all except one. Seventy-five visits were made for the purpose of completing these inspections and 36 letters were sent to the owner or occupiers regarding contraventions found ; these numbered 283 in all.

Several requests were received from occupiers for an early inspection of their premises so that they might be advised as to their liabilities and there has been a generally favourable reception at all premises visited.

It is one of the provisions of the Act that any accident which causes loss of life to a person employed to work in the premises to which the Act applies, or disables such a person for more than three days from doing his usual work must be notified to the enforcing authority.

During these first few months of operation seven accidents were notified : one of these was fatal and another was of a serious nature. These two were fully investigated to determine the cause of the accident and whether precautionary measures could be taken to minimise the risk of recurrence. In neither case was the accident attributed to a contravention of the safety provisions. The fatal accident occurred within a week of the Act becoming operative and may well have been one of the first such accidents notified under its provisions—an unenviable record.

The premises so far registered can be classified as follows :—

| Class of Workplace                    | No. Registered | Number of persons employed |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Offices .....                         | 211            | 1,651                      |
| Retail Shops .....                    | 665            | 3,288                      |
| Wholesale shops, warehouse .....      | 26             | 342                        |
| Catering Establishments, Canteens ... | 127            | 1,141                      |
| Fuel storage depots .....             | 2              | 8                          |

## HOUSING

In the whole field of environmental work there can be few matters which have such an immediate and damaging effect on human happiness and wellbeing as that of a housing ‘problem.’ Whether the problem arises from a need for repairs or a notice to

quit, from strained relationships between landlord and tenant or between neighbours, or even from the fact of having no house at all and no hope from other sources—sooner or later in many cases the Public Health Inspector is asked to help. More often than not he needs to be not only a council official but a guide, counsellor and philosopher into the bargain. Many of the problems could be readily solved if an adequate stock of houses was available—and some only then. In the meantime one of this Department's most constantly pressing tasks is in the field of unsatisfactory housing conditions.

In the past year a total of 2,379 inspections and visits were made for various housing purposes; 365 dwellings were represented as suitable only for clearance or closure; 285 were repaired following service of notices; 96 were inspected with a view to improvement; and 25 following applications under the **Rent Act, 1957**.

## **New Houses.**

Four hundred and thirty one new dwellings were completed during the year comprising the following types :

### **Private**

|                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| 3 bedroomed flat (club steward's) .....         | 1  |
| 3 bedroomed flat (public house manager's) ..... | 2  |
| 2 bedroomed flat (public house manager's) ..... | 1  |
| 2 bedroomed flats (over shops) .....            | 4  |
| 2 bedroomed flats (one block) .....             | 18 |
| 2 bedroomed bungalows semi-detached .....       | 22 |
| 2 bedroomed bungalows detached .....            | 3  |
| 3 bedroomed houses semi-detached .....          | 35 |
| 3 bedroomed houses detached .....               | 14 |
| 4 bedroomed houses detached .....               | 4  |

### **Corporation Dwellings**

|                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| 2 bedroomed terrace .....              | 84 |
| 3 bedroomed terrace .....              | 61 |
| 1 bedroomed flats .....                | 24 |
| 2 bedroomed flats .....                | 42 |
| 3 bedroomed flats .....                | 12 |
| 1 bedroomed bungalow .....             | 50 |
| 3 bedroomed houses semi-detached ..... | 54 |

The number of inhabited houses in the Borough at the end of the year was 36,385.

### Fair Rents Bureau.

The following statement by the Borough Treasurer summarises the work of the Bureau during the year.

|                                                                                        |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Forms 'G' sold to tenants .....                                                        | 53              |
| Enquiries by landlords <i>re</i> correct rent chargeable,<br>notices to quit, etc..... | 70              |
| Enquiries by tenants <i>re</i> correct rent chargeable,<br>notices to quit, etc.....   | 76              |
| Furnished accommodation—cases heard by Tribunal .                                      | 3               |
|                                                                                        | <hr/> 202 <hr/> |

### Slum Clearance.

The following areas were represented during the year and compulsory purchase orders were subsequently made which included additional houses in the 'grey' land.

| Area                                                | Date    | Dwellings | Families | Persons |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Moon Street clearance area .                        | 8.4.64  | 82        | 79       | 190     |
| Additional dwellings in<br>C.P.O. 'grey' land. .... |         | 8         | 8        | 16      |
| Cleveland Street No. 1 & 2<br>clearance areas ..... | 9.12.64 | 274       | 274      | 697     |
| Additional dwellings in<br>C.P.O. 'grey' land ..... |         | 41        | 40       | 105     |
| Totals in C.P.O. ....                               |         | 405       | 401      | 1,008   |

Compulsory purchase orders containing the following clearance areas were confirmed.

| Area                     | Date confirmed | Date of Public Inquiry | Date represented |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| High Shields No. 7 ..... | 26.5.64        | 12.2.64*               | 10.4.63          |

\* Inspection only

## Individual Unfit Houses.

In addition to those dwellings included in clearance areas a further nine dwellings and one part of a dwelling were represented as being suitable only for demolition or closure. As a result two closing orders and one demolition order were made and six undertakings were accepted by the Council in lieu of closing orders. One further case remains outstanding but it is anticipated that an undertaking not to relet the premises will be offered to the Council.

Nine families comprising 23 persons were affected.

## Overcrowding.

Of ten investigations specifically into overcrowding of dwelling accommodation six were confirmed. In the appropriate cases the Housing Department was informed so that the families concerned could be allocated points for rehousing.

There were in addition ten overcrowded dwellings in the clearance areas represented during the year; this is approximately 3% and a somewhat lower proportion than has been found in previous years.

## Rent Act, 1957 — Certificates of Disrepair.

The following are details of applications considered during the year. Totals of applications dealt with since the Act came into operation (July 1957) are also shown:—

|                                                                          |     |     |     | 1964 | 1957-1964<br><i>inclusive</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|-------------------------------|
| Applications for Certificates of Disrepair                               | ... | ... | ... | 6    | 599                           |
| Applications refused or withdrawn                                        | ... | ... | ... | 1    | 42                            |
| Notice given of intention to issue Certificate                           | ... | ... | ... | 5    | 558                           |
| Undertakings accepted by Council                                         | ... | ... | ... | 2    | 440                           |
| Certificates of Disrepair issued                                         | ... | ... | ... | 3    | 105                           |
| Applications for cancellation                                            | ... | ... | ... | 5    | 61                            |
| Granted without objection by tenant                                      | ... | ... | ... | 5    | 51                            |
| Granted after objection by tenant                                        | ... | ... | ... | —    | 5                             |
| Refused                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | —    | 5                             |
| Applications for Certificates relating to compliance with undertakings : |     |     |     |      |                               |
| From landlords                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 17   | 117                           |
| From tenants...                                                          | ... | ... | ... | 2    | 72                            |

## **Improvement Grants.**

There have been 96 applications for improvement grants, 25 of which were for "standard" and 71 for "discretionary" grants. All except three applications were approved: the grounds for refusal of the three being, in two cases, that the property concerned did not have a sufficient length of future life and in the third case that facilities for which grant was being sought already existed.

## **Seamen's Lodging Houses.**

There are no common lodging houses in the town but a number of seamen's lodging houses are registered under the Merchant Shipping Acts and provide accommodation for seamen.

Two lodging house keepers relinquished their licences during the year when their premises became due for demolition and one was granted a licence for new premises. There are now 12 licensed premises in the Borough providing accommodation for a total of 103 persons.

Each of the premises has been inspected a number of times, the total number of visits being 54. Contraventions of the Regulations or other unsatisfactory conditions were found on seven occasions and these were rectified immediately after attention was drawn to them.

## **Houses in Multiple Occupation.**

This is a field in which considerable and persistent effort is needed to secure improvement of standards and because of staff shortages less than the desirable amount of work has been put into this problem. Nevertheless 83 visits and inspections were made and some improvements effected.

One house was the subject of formal action: a Management Order was imposed and also an order limiting the number of occupants. Four houses previously in multiple occupation have ceased to be occupied in that manner and a fifth has been demolished; four houses not previously known to be occupied in this way came to light.

At the end of the year there were 33 houses known to be in multiple occupation with 136 separate lettings containing 199 adults and 35 children.

## Food and Drugs Control.

Control is exercised over the whole range of production, manufacture, distribution and retailing of food to ensure wholesomeness and quality. Premises and personnel must satisfy the required standards of hygiene, and foodstuffs and drugs must conform to the various requirements relating to composition, preservation, colouring and labelling.

Control is exercised by inspection of food premises of all kinds, by examination of foodstuffs and by sampling foodstuffs for chemical analysis or bacteriological assay.

## Sampling for Chemical Analysis.

A total of 199 samples was taken for chemical analysis by the Public Analyst. This included 88 samples of milk, 99 samples of other foods and 12 samples of drugs; 13 of them were taken in accordance with the formal procedure. Twenty-two samples were reported unsatisfactory and the following table shows the details of those together with the action taken in each case.

| Sample No.    | Article          | Report                                                                                                                                                                                 | Action Taken and Result                                                        |
|---------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| F/1—formal    | Sal volatile     | Contained only 0.93 % of free ammonia instead of 1.12 to 1.25 % w/v as specified by B.P.C.                                                                                             | Letter of caution sent to vendor.                                              |
| F/6—informal  | Fish cakes       | Contained only 23.6 % of fish by weight instead of 35 % as required by Food Standards (Fish Cakes Order, 1950).<br>Contained only 23 % of fish                                         | Letter of caution sent to vendor.                                              |
| F/17—formal   | Fish cakes       |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/15—informal | Fish cakes       | Contained only 16.7 % of fish by weight instead of 35 %<br>Contained only 15.6 % of fish by weight                                                                                     | Legal proceedings taken fine of £10 0s. 0d. imposed with £6 8s. 0d. costs.     |
| F/16—formal   | Fish cakes       |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/9—informal  | Sal-volatile     | Small deviation from B.P.C.<br>Small deviation from B.P.C.<br>Small deviation from B.P.C.<br>Small deviation from B.P.C.<br>Small deviation from B.P.C.<br>Small deviation from B.P.C. | Vendor cautioned and advised in each case.                                     |
| F/10—informal | Sal-volatile     |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/11—informal | Sal-volatile     |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/12—informal | Sal-volatile     |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/13—informal | Sal-volatile     |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/14—informal | Sal-volatile     |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                |
| F/47—informal | Slimming Tablets | Misleading description (laxative and diuretic)                                                                                                                                         | Letters of caution sent distributor and manufacturers. New description agreed. |

## Residual Pesticides in Food.

In addition to the above, 18 samples of fruit or vegetables have been submitted for analysis for the express purpose of determining whether any residual pesticide was present. All of these were reported to be satisfactory.

## Food Premises and Food Hygiene.

From the inception of the Food Hygiene Regulations in 1955, the emphasis in work done under them has been on advising, educating and helping those affected and only the most outstanding and inalcitrant offenders against the code have been prosecuted for their offences. The emphasis continues to be on advising and educating but it has become evident that at some time distinction must be drawn between those who can and will benefit from advice and those who can not or will not. It seems that those in the latter group will meet their obligations only when under constant supervision, which is impracticable, or when faced with the threat of legal proceedings. During the past year the Public Health Committee began to adopt a sterner attitude to this type of offender and as a result there has been an increase in the number of legal proceedings instituted.

The following are details of the cases in respect of which summonses were issued.

| <i>Offence.</i>                                                                                  | <i>Result of Proceedings</i>                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (a) Food handler smoking in food room containing open food ... ..                                | Fine of £5.                                                                               |
| (b) Hand washing facilities not provided ... ..                                                  | Summons withdrawn on completion of work before hearing.                                   |
| (c) Hand washing facilities not provided ... ..                                                  | Summons withdrawn on completion of work before hearing.                                   |
| (d) Food handler smoking in food room containing open food ... ..                                | Fine of £3 and £3 3s. 0d. costs.                                                          |
| (e) Dirty and unsatisfactory state of restaurant premises (11 contraventions specified) ... ..   | Fines totalling £50 for 8 of 11 counts: costs of £9 18s. 0d. and £10 10 0. advocates fee. |
| (f) Food handler smoking in food room containing open food ... ..                                | Fine of £10 and £5 5s. 0d. costs.                                                         |
| (g) Food handler smoking in food room containing open food ... ..                                | Fine of £10 and £5 5s. 0d. costs.                                                         |
| (h) Dirty and unsatisfactory state of pork butchers premises (7 contraventions specified) ... .. | Fines totalling £115 and £10 costs.                                                       |
| (i) Dirty and unsatisfactory state of bakery premises (11 contraventions specified) ... ..       | Fines totalling £90 on 9 counts and £10 10s. 0d. costs.                                   |
| (j) Dirty and unsatisfactory state of bakery premises (4 contraventions specified) ... ..        | Fines totalling £32 10s. 0d. and £7 7s. 0d. costs.                                        |

Legal proceedings were also taken in respect of the sale of the following unsatisfactory articles of food.

| <i>Article of Food</i> | <i>Condition</i> |           |     | <i>Result of Proceedings</i>              |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----|-------------------------------------------|
| (a) Pork pie           | ...              | Mouldy    | ... | Fine of £15 and £5 5s. 0d. advocates fee. |
| (b) Bread loaf         | ...              | Contained |     |                                           |
|                        |                  | cockroach | ... | Fine of £40.                              |

Unfortunately the number of inspections for purposes of food hygiene is greatly reduced in comparison with previous years owing to staff difficulties and the pressure of other work. Not the least of these pressures was the alarm over corned beef following the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak and although 780 visits were made to food premises in connection with corned beef stocks the urgent nature of the inquiries left no time to discuss food hygiene in general.

The number of food hygiene inspections was 414; notices were served in respect of 63 premises and 261 improvements were obtained.

The food premises in the town are of the number and type shown below. It should be noted that these are classed according to the principle trade and in some cases is is not the only one.

Retail Shops:—

|                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Butchers                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 107 |
| Bakers and confectioners    |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 41  |
| Fish fryers                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40  |
| Fishmongers                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21  |
| Grocers and general dealers |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 341 |
| Greengrocers                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54  |
| Bakehouses                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48  |
| Catering establishments     |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 83  |
| Public Houses and clubs     |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 134 |
| Foodstores and warehouses   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26  |
| Ice cream manufacture       |     |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10  |
| Miscellaneous               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 163 |

## Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

|                                                                                          |        |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|
| For the manufacture, storage or sale of ice cream                                        | ...    | 353 |
| For the manufacture or preparation of sausages, of pickled, potted or preserved foods... | ... .. | 156 |

### Ice Cream.

The following are details of bacteriological samples taken:—

| <i>Provisional Grade</i> | <i>No. of Samples</i> | <i>Percentage of total</i> | <i>Remarks</i>      |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1                        | 54                    | 73                         | Good                |
| 2                        | 10                    | 13·5                       | Satisfactory        |
| 3                        | 8                     | 10·8                       | Unsatisfactory      |
| 4                        | 2                     | 2·7                        | Very unsatisfactory |

A series of unsatisfactory results from any one source is taken to be an indication of faulty manufacture or storage calling for closer investigation.

### Bacteriological Investigation of Other Foods.

Twenty-eight samples of foodstuffs other than milk or ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination. Unsatisfactory or suspicious results calling for follow-up and advisory action were received for three of these.

### Milk Distribution.

There are 345 distributors in the Borough selling heat treated milk from seven different sources and untreated milk from 18 different sources: 342 sell sterilised; 89 sell pasteurised and 35 sell untreated milk. There is one pasteurising plant in the town at which some 4,300 gallons of milk are treated daily.

Samples are taken regularly and submitted for statutory tests for keeping quality and adequacy of heat treatment: 332 were taken in the past year and details are shown below:—

| Designation                                | Samples taken | Results of Tests. |        |                |        |           |        |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------|----------------|--------|-----------|--------|
|                                            |               | Phosphatase       |        | Methylene Blue |        | Turbidity |        |
|                                            |               | Passed            | Failed | Passed         | Failed | Passed    | Failed |
| Pasteurised ... }<br>T.T.<br>(Pasteurised) | 121           | 121               | —      | 112            | 9      | —         | —      |
| T.T.<br>(Farm Bottled)                     | 164           | 164               | —      | 136            | 28     | —         | —      |
| Sterilised .....                           | 47            | —                 | —      | —              | —      | 47        | —      |

The phosphatase and turbidity tests are used to ensure adequacy of heat treatment of pasteurised and sterilised milks respectively; the methylene blue test is for keeping quality.

As indicated in my last year's report the term "Tuberculin Tested" passed out of use as a milk designation at the end of 1964. Farm bottled milk will in future be sold under the designation "Untreated."

## Antibiotics in Milk.

A report published by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food during 1963 referred to the widespread use of antibiotics in the treatment of mastitis—inflammation of the udder—in cows and indicated that during a 12 month survey 11% of the milk samples taken on behalf of the investigating committee contained antibiotics.

In the past year 171 samples of raw milk have been taken within the Borough and none has contained antibiotics. This satisfactory situation is particularly encouraging in view of the fact that in 1963, out of 26 samples taken, 3 showed evidence of the presence of antibiotics.

## Brucella abortus.

One hundred and thirty eight samples of raw milk were submitted for examination for *Brucella abortus*; each of the samples was Ring

tested and cultured. The Ring test is a relatively quick screening test but no action is taken on positive results to it unless confirmed by culture. Forty four samples were positive to the Ring test and two were positive on culture.

The two positive culture samples were obtained from one herd on 16th July. The farmer was immediately informed and assurances were received that all cows in the herd of about 100 were to be individually tested. In view of this assurance it was not considered necessary to impose an order under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations to prohibit the sale or require heat treatment of the supply from the herd; however it was obviously necessary to keep a close check on this supply and sampling was intensified.

As a result of the individual tests six of the cows were found to be affected and were removed from the herd. Although 49 samples were taken during the course of the next three months no further positive cultures resulted (though 12 positive Ring test results were obtained) and it was considered that the infection in the herd had been removed.

As a precautionary measure all general medical practitioners in the town were informed of the possibility that infected milk might have been delivered in the town but no illness which might have been associated with infection was notified.

### **The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.**

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough and a comprehensive check of bakehouses in late 1963 showed that liquid egg was not being used. No instances of its use have come to light this year.

### **Meat Inspection.**

All slaughtering of animals for human consumption is done at the Public Abattoir. The number of animals slaughtered and inspected during 1964 was 31,121 compared with the previous year's total of 38,473. Although this reduction is said to be mainly attributable to the high cost of meat throughout the period there can be little doubt that the incursion of the multiple stores and supermarkets into the butchering trade must be having some influ-

ence on the demand for locally produced meat. The fall in throughput was most noticeable for sheep and lambs—4,700 down—and in cattle—2,177 down.

Although the percentage of cattle affected with tuberculosis showed a slight increase over the previous year it is still low and is almost wholly attributable to animals sent in as reactors or contacts of which there were 80. The percentage of animals affected with other conditions shows no significant change.

#### CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED.

|                                                                                                  | Cattle<br>Excluding<br>Cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>&<br>Lambs | Pigs  | Horses |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------|-------|--------|
| Number killed .....                                                                              | 2,880                       | 1,211 | 79     | 22,839              | 4,112 | —      |
| Number inspected .....                                                                           | 2,880                       | 1,211 | 79     | 22,839              | 4,112 | —      |
| <i>All diseases except tuberculosis and C. Bovis.</i>                                            |                             |       |        |                     |       |        |
| Whole Carcases condemned .....                                                                   | —                           | 29    | 5      | 101                 | 9     | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....                                         | 802                         | 807   | 3      | 2,082               | 478   | —      |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci ..... | 27·8                        | 69·0  | 10·1   | 9·5                 | 11·8  | —      |
| <i>Tuberculosis only:</i>                                                                        |                             |       |        |                     |       |        |
| Whole carcases condemned .....                                                                   | —                           | 3     | —      | —                   | —     | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....                                         | 10                          | 30    | —      | —                   | 17    | —      |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis .....                                  | 0·34                        | 2·7   | —      | —                   | 0·41  | —      |
| <i>Cysticercosis:</i>                                                                            |                             |       |        |                     |       |        |
| Whole carcase condemned .....                                                                    | —                           | —     | —      | —                   | —     | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....                                         | 4                           | —     | —      | —                   | —     | —      |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by Refrigeration .....                                           | 4                           | —     | —      | —                   | —     | —      |

### Disposal of Unfit Food.

Unfit meat is collected under contract for processing by heat treatment; before leaving the abattoir it is thoroughly stained with a green dye. All other condemned food is destroyed by incineration under an arrangement with the Cleansing Superintendent.

The total weight of meat and offal rejected at the abattoir was 20 tons 4 cwts. 62 lbs.

Other foods inspected and condemned amounted to 6 tons 14 cwts. 66 lbs. made up as follows :—

|                               |     |     |     |     |     | lbs.   |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Meat at retail shops          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 110    |
| Cooked meat and meat products | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11     |
| Canned meats                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11,162 |
| Fish...                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61     |
| Fruit and vegetables          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,474  |
| Other foods                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,258  |

The number of condemnation certificates issued in respect of these other foods was 1,029.

### **Corned Beef.**

Following the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak and the indications that this may have arisen from an infected can of corned beef, the Ministry of Health suggested a check on all stocks and the withdrawal from sale of 6lbs. cans originating from certain South American establishments between specified dates. Although the processing of these consignments was suspect they could not be condemned and the Ministry had secured a voluntary agreement with the producers for their withdrawal.

As a result of this exercise 112 cans came from these consignments were found in food premises in the Borough. Seven were sent for bacteriological investigation and were reported satisfactory and the remainder were passed back to their respective sources through trade channels.

## **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**

### **Smoke Control Areas.**

Although the Council has decided for the present not to proceed with the establishment of smoke control areas a favourable general policy is being followed in connection with new and redeveloped housing areas. In such areas there are now some 1,500 houses provided with smokeless means of heating — mostly gas or electricity. In areas currently in course of development a proportion

of the houses will have solid fuel room heaters whilst the remainder will be gas or electrically heated : and, for an area soon to be redeveloped with approximately 400 houses, consideration is being given to a district heating scheme.

In view of the extensive redevelopment to be done in the Borough a continuing adherence to this policy will undoubtedly have a beneficial effect.

## **Garden Fires.**

In the late summer and autumn months complaints are frequently received about nuisance from garden fires. It is worthy of note that there is no provision in the Clean Air Act for the control of garden fires (not even if the garden is within a smoke control area) and though a continuous or recurring smoke nuisance of this kind might be dealt with under the nuisance abatement provisions of the Public Health Acts this procedure is hardly applicable to the once or twice a year variety of garden fires.

One cannot help but feel, however, that complainants frequently have a very real grievance. There are few gardens in the Borough in which a fire can be far enough away from neighbouring houses so as not to cause a nuisance and lack of thought or consideration as to timing and wind direction sometimes adds further aggravation.

In these circumstances the most that can be done is to offer a tactful word of advice to the offender but it can seldom be known whether this has any lasting effect.

## **Industrial.**

I have reported on previous occasions that two of our most obvious industrial smoke nuisances are those from British Railways Green Lane engine sheds and from the National Coal Board's coastal line from Whitburn to Westoe.

The National Coal Board have now been experimenting for some time with mechanical stoking equipment for their locomotives and it seems this might go a long way towards solving the problem during the lifetime of the present engines. One locomotive in this area has been fitted with the stoker and others will be converted if tests continue to prove successful.

British Railways have continued to exercise all possible care to minimise smoke emissions pending conversion from steam to diesel propulsion. Complaints made to the Locomotive Superintendent are investigated and in one instance where there were no extenuating circumstances the men in charge of the engine were disciplined by the railway authority.

There have been no serious or persistent smoke emissions from other industrial chimneys during the year; three minor contraventions have been observed but there have been no repetitions since cautions were given to the managements concerned and the problems discussed.

### Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution.

The following tables give monthly average values for sulphur dioxide and smoke in the air and also the highest and lowest daily readings in each month as recorded by the instruments maintained at the Public Health Department, the Girls Grammar School and the Boys Grammar School.

#### HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

| Month           | SO <sub>2</sub> in<br>Microgrammes/cu. metre |         |        | Smoke in<br>Microgrammes/cu. metre |         |        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|---------|--------|------------------------------------|---------|--------|
|                 | Average                                      | Highest | Lowest | Average                            | Highest | Lowest |
| January .....   | 348                                          | 867     | 173    | 485                                | 1,254   | 244    |
| February.....   | 324                                          | 607     | 90     | 452                                | 1,029   | 212    |
| March .....     | 158                                          | 399     | 46     | 314                                | 733     | 138    |
| April .....     | 170                                          | 363     | 38     | 242                                | 420     | 156    |
| May.....        | 108                                          | 163     | 59     | 126                                | 184     | 92     |
| June.....       | 102                                          | 187     | 53     | 118                                | 190     | 104    |
| July .....      | 110                                          | 165     | 44     | 72                                 | 172     | 52     |
| August .....    | 67                                           | 232     | 63     | 99                                 | 384     | 72     |
| September ..... | 111                                          | 265     | 82     | 142                                | 342     | 88     |
| October.....    | 199                                          | 467     | 135    | 283                                | 876     | 132    |
| November .....  | 224                                          | 593     | 113    | 326                                | 1,276   | 156    |
| December .....  | 322                                          | 959     | 168    | 371                                | 1,028   | 188    |

## GIRLS GRAMMAR TECHNICAL SCHOOL

|                 | SO2 in<br>Microgrammes/cu. metre |         |        | Smoke in<br>Microgrammes/cu. metre |         |        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------|--------|------------------------------------|---------|--------|
|                 | Average                          | Highest | Lowest | Average                            | Highest | Lowest |
| January .....   | 166                              | 602     | 40     | 245                                | 896     | 104    |
| February.....   | 173                              | 459     | 47     | 272                                | 860     | 124    |
| March.....      | 250                              | 1,016   | 13     | 139                                | 340     | 4      |
| April .....     | 141                              | 306     | 76     | 116                                | 168     | 39     |
| May.....        | 88                               | 146     | 38     | 59                                 | 172     | 7      |
| June.....       | 71                               | 156     | 29     | 59                                 | 172     | 4      |
| July .....      | 57                               | 116     | 14     | 43                                 | 132     | 4      |
| August .....    | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| September ..... | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| October.....    | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| November .....  | 231                              | 452     | 67     | 225                                | 700     | 20     |
| December .....  | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |

## BOYS GRAMMAR TEHNICAL SCHOOL.

| Month           | SO2 in<br>Microgrammes/cu. metre |         |        | Smoke in<br>Microgrammes/cu. metre |         |        |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------|--------|------------------------------------|---------|--------|
|                 | Average                          | Highest | Lowest | Average                            | Highest | Lowest |
| January .....   | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| February.....   | 123                              | 267     | 54     | 186                                | 540     | 31     |
| March .....     | 95                               | 235     | 24     | 157                                | 368     | 68     |
| April .....     | 52                               | 121     | 6      | 66                                 | 256     | 8      |
| May.....        | 69                               | 194     | 13     | 27                                 | 72      | 8      |
| June.....       | 76                               | 152     | 27     | 27                                 | 100     | 5      |
| July .....      | 68                               | 247     | 20     | 20                                 | 72      | 4      |
| August .....    | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| September ..... | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| October.....    | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |
| November .....  | 214                              | 527     | 122    | —                                  | —       | —      |
| December .....  | —                                | —       | —      | —                                  | —       | —      |

## FACTORIES

Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health :

| Premises<br>(1)                                                                             | Number<br>on<br>Register<br>(2) | Number of               |                           |                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                                                                                             |                                 | Inspec-<br>tions<br>(3) | Written<br>notices<br>(4) | Occupiers<br>prosecuted<br>(5) |
| (i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...  | 26                              | 8                       | 2                         | —                              |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) where Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..... | 303                             | 49                      | 12                        | —                              |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....            | 62                              | 34                      | 6                         | —                              |
| Total .....                                                                                 | 391                             | 91                      | 20                        | —                              |

Cases in which defects were found :

| Particulars<br>(1)                                                                 | Found<br>(2) | Remedied<br>(3) | Referred                    |                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                                                                    |              |                 | To H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(4) | By H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(5) |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...                                                     | —            | —               | —                           | —                           |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) .....                                                          | —            | —               | —                           | —                           |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) .....                                              | —            | —               | —                           | —                           |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .                                                     | 4            | 3               | —                           | —                           |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) .....                                        | 1            | 1               | —                           | —                           |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7—                                                        |              |                 |                             |                             |
| (a) insufficient .....                                                             | 2            | 2               | —                           | —                           |
| (b) unsuitable or defective                                                        | 13           | 12              | —                           | —                           |
| (c) not separate for sexes                                                         | —            | —               | —                           | —                           |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-Work) ..... | 4            | 5               | 2                           | 7                           |
| Total .....                                                                        | 24           | 23              | 2                           | 7                           |

## Outworkers.

There were no known outworkers during the year.

## CONTROL OF RODENTS AND OTHER PESTS

During the year 476 notifications of rodent infestations were received and a further 54 infestations were found in the course of surveys made under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, or when visiting primarily for other purposes. There were 196 rat infestations and 350 mouse infestations whilst both types of rodent were present in 16 cases; 361 dwellings and 169 business or local authority premises were involved.

The Council employs rodent operatives and rodent control work is carried out on request at a charge, for business premises, sufficient to cover the cost of labour and materials; no charge is made in respect of dwelling houses.

Thirty nine notices were served specifying work necessary to prevent reinfestation.

The sewerage systems of the town were twice treated during the year; from a total of 647 points baited 144 takes were recorded.

In addition to advising on methods of dealing with insect infestations or other pests, the Department is able to undertake some disinfestation work. A charge is made for all types of premises, sufficient to cover the cost of labour and materials: 165 infestations have been so dealt with this year.

### SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' WORK, 1964.

|                                        |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|----------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Complaints received...                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,438 |
| (a) Inspections and Investigations :   |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| <i>Houses Inspected—</i>               |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| Under Public Health Acts               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 448   |
| Under Housing Acts                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 560   |
| Improvement grants                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 96    |
| Certificates of disrepair              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25    |
| <i>Houses Re-inspected—</i>            |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
| Under Public Health or Housing Acts... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 992   |
| Improvement Grants                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 109   |
| Certificates of disrepair              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2     |
| Houses in multiple occupation          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 83    |
| Seamen's lodging Houses                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54    |
| Verminous or dirty premises            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 181   |
| Other nuisances                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 56    |

*Drainage:*

|                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Visits           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 88 |
| Works supervised | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Tests applied    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 |

*Infectious Diseases:*

|                                              |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Cases investigated...                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 492 |
| Visits of surveillance                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 147 |
| Visits <i>re</i> pathological specimens etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 888 |
| Premises disinfected                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16  |

*Overcrowding:*

|                                                             |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Houses inspected specifically                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| No. of above found to be overcrowded                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| No. of overcrowded houses in clearance areas represented... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |

*Factories:*

|                                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Power                                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 49  |
| Non-power                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8   |
| Building and engineering works                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34  |
| Outworkers premises                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Offices, shops, workplaces                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 299 |
| Offensive trades                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18  |
| Places of public entertainment                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8   |
| Pet Shops                                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |
| Schools                                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |
| Rag, flock and other filling materials premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Samples taken                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |
| Barbers and hairdressers                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Samples taken                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12  |
| Swimming baths                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 75  |
| Samples taken—bacteriological                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 146 |
| Pharmacy and poisons...                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33  |
| Exhumations                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |

*Food Premises:*

|                                               |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Registered under Food and Drugs Act...        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 69    |
| Others                                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 345   |
| Inspections of unsound food                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 129   |
| Condemnation certificates issued              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,029 |
| Visits in connection with suspect corned beef | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 780   |
| Land search enquiries                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 246   |

*Food and Drug Samples Taken:**Milk.*

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Chemical        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 88  |
| Bacteriological | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 332 |
| Antibiotics     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 171 |

*Ice Cream.*

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Chemical        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Bacteriological | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 74 |

*Water Supply.*

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Bacteriological | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66 |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|

*Other Foods and Drugs.*

|                                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Chemical                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 96 |
| Bacteriological                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| For presence of residual pesticides | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |

*Atmospheric Pollution:*

|                                                          |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Inspections of industrial fuel burning appliances        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8   |
| Inspections in connection with smoke control area survey | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 290 |
| Smoke observations—half hour                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8   |
| Smoke observations—casual                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21  |

*Pest Control:*

|                                  |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rodent infestations cleared      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 530 |
| Other pests infestations cleared | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 165 |

## (b) Notices Served:

## Public Health and Housing Acts:

|                                         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Intimation notices...                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 276 |
| Statutory notices                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43  |
| Other letters and reminders             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54  |
| South Shields Corporation Acts          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57  |
| Pet Animals Act                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Factories Acts                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20  |
| Food and Drugs Act                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63  |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39  |
| Merchandise Marks Act                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8   |
| Clean Air Act                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36  |

---

601

---

## (c) Improvements made in food premises:

|                                             |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Sinks or wash hand basins provided          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Cold water supply provided                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| Hot water supply provided                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Accommodation for outdoor clothing provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| First Aid equipment provided                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Food displays protected from contamination  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Lighting improved                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Ventilation provided or improved            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| "Wash hands" notices provided               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Soap, towels, nail brushes etc., provided   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Rooms cleaned or redecorated                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 71 |
| Miscellaneous                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 86 |

---

261

---

## (d) Repairs and improvements to houses:

|                                                         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Floors relaid or repaired                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28  |
| Walls or ceilings repaired                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51  |
| Dampness of walls remedied                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62  |
| Roofs repaired                                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 64  |
| Spouts repaired or renewed                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30  |
| Windows repaired or made to open                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20  |
| Yards drained, relaid or repaired                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |
| Waterclosets repaired or renewed                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 68  |
| Drains cleared of obstruction                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66  |
| Drains relaid or repaired                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19  |
| Waterpipes repaired or renewed                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43  |
| Miscellaneous improvements effected or nuisances abated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 114 |

---

572

---



## **Part V**

### **Miscellaneous Services**

---

**Welfare of Blind Persons.**

**National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.**

**National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.**

**Medical Examinations.**

## Blind Persons.

I am indebted to the Director of Welfare Services for the information supplied for this part of the report.

During the year, the total number of Forms B.D.8. submitted was 57 and the number of persons certified as blind was 37.

| <i>Age Groups</i>    | <i>On Certification</i> | <i>At Onset of Blindness</i> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 10 to 19 years ..... | ...                     | 1                            |
| 20 to 29 years ..... | ...                     | ...                          |
| 30 to 39 years ..... | ...                     | 1                            |
| 40 to 49 years ..... | 1                       | 2                            |
| 50 to 59 years ..... | 4                       | 5                            |
| 60 to 69 years ..... | 5                       | 6                            |
| 70 to 79 years ..... | 17                      | 15                           |
| 80 and over .....    | 10                      | 7                            |
| Total .....          | 37                      | 37                           |

The total number on the Blind Register at the end of the year was 366.

## Treatment.

### Follow up of Registered Blind Persons.

|                                                                                                       | Causes of disability |          |                         |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------|
|                                                                                                       | Cataract             | Glaucoma | Retrolental Fibroplasia | Others |
| (i) Number of cases registered during 1964, in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8. recommends— |                      |          |                         |        |
| (a) No Treatment .....                                                                                | 3                    | 2        | ...                     | 11     |
| (b) Treatment (Medical, surgical or optical) .....                                                    | 3                    | 6        | ...                     | 12     |
| (c) Treatment inadvisable ...                                                                         | ...                  | ...      | ...                     | ...    |
| (ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow up action have received treatment.....          | 2                    | ...      | ...                     | 5      |

## **National Assistance Act, 1948 : Section 47, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.**

It was not found necessary to use the provisions of these Acts during the year.

## **Medical Examination for the Purpose of Superannuation and Sick Pay Schemes.**

The following table indicates the number of medical examinations carried out during 1964 by the Medical Staff of the Health Department.

| Categories                                         | 1963 |        | 1964 |        |
|----------------------------------------------------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                    | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| For other Depts., within the Local Authority ..... | 206  | 114    | 272  | 122    |
| Health Department .....                            | 11   | 24     | 21   | 20     |
| Teachers and Teacher Candidates .....              | 61   | 73     | 56   | 55     |
| Special Examination .....                          | 18   | 9      | 1    | 1      |
| Examinations for other Authorities ...             | 9    | 3      | ...  | ...    |
| Total .....                                        | 305  | 253    | 350  | 198    |

Six examinations were carried out by other authorities on behalf of the Department.





